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September 1, 2026

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YOUR WEEKLY REVIEW

Issue No. 9/2026-2027

Gov't boosts education budget to Sh784.5billion

Kenya increased its education budget to Sh784.5 billion for the 2026/27 financial year, as the Government steps up investment in teachers, equity, education data and skills development.

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Kenya raises education budget to Sh784.5 billion as government steps up reforms

Kenya has made progress in implementing education reforms through targeted programmes aimed at improving learning outcomes, promoting equity, strengthening teachers and expanding access to education.

Higher Education Principal Secretary, Beatrice Inyangala. File photo.

BY SHARON NJERU AND EMMANUEL MWENDWA (KNA)

Kenya increased its education budget to Sh784.5 billion for the 2026/27 financial year, up from Sh702 billion in 2025/26, as the Government steps up investment in teachers, equity, education data and skills development.

Principal Secretary for Higher Education and Research Beatrice Inyangala said the increased allocation demonstrated the Government's commitment to strengthening the education sector and improving learning outcomes.

Speaking during the Second East African Community (EAC) Regional Conference on Education in Nairobi, Inyangala said the Sh784.5 billion allocation accounted for about 27 per cent of the national budget and 4.9 per cent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

> We are prioritising retooling of these teachers so that they can deliver competency-based education using innovative pedagogy.

She said Kenya had made progress in implementing education reforms through targeted programmes aimed at improving learning outcomes, promoting equity, strengthening teachers and expanding access to education.

Inyangala cited the Kenya Primary Education Equity in Learning Programme (KPEEL) and the National Assessment System for Monitoring Learner Achievement (NASMLA) among initiatives supporting efforts to identify disparities and improve learning outcomes.

She said Kenya had also continued implementing competency-based education across the country, supported by teacher recruitment, continuous professional development and information and communication technology (ICT) training.

Inyangala said the Government had recruited thousands of teachers in recent years to strengthen the teaching workforce, while efforts were being made to retool teachers to effectively deliver competency-based education.

"We are prioritising retooling of these teachers so that they can deliver competency-based education using innovative pedagogy," she said.

The PS said the Government was also strengthening accountability in the education sector through improved data management and the operationalisation of the Kenya Education Management Information System (KEMIS).

She said KEMIS was designed to provide an integrated platform for managing education data, including learner information, and would support evidence-based planning, resource allocation and monitoring of education outcomes.

"This provides a necessary foundation for evidence-based planning and accountability and strengthens the reliability of tracking equity and learning outcomes," she said.

Inyangala said Kenya was also strengthening skills development through Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), which enables individuals to have skills acquired through informal, non-formal and experiential learning assessed and formally recognised.

She said RPL could help workers in the informal sector obtain recognised qualifications and improve their access to employment, further training and other economic opportunities.

The PS said Kenya's experience

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had demonstrated that targeted financing, particularly funding linked to verified school improvement plans, could contribute to improved learning outcomes in underserved areas.

She, however, called for predictable and sustainable education financing, warning that funding constraints could undermine progress made through school improvement and other education programmes.

Inyangala also highlighted gender-responsive interventions, including affirmative measures and the 100 per cent transition policy, saying such interventions had contributed to progress towards gender parity at secondary and tertiary levels.

Despite increased teacher recruitment, she said, staffing gaps and regional disparities in teacher distribution remained a challenge at primary and junior secondary levels.

"This points to the need for recruitment and deployment planning that keeps pace with enrolment growth over the medium term," she said.

Inyangala further said efforts to return children who had dropped out of school were more effective when combined with complementary social support, including cash transfers, community engagement and re-entry programmes.

She said the integration of refugee and host-community learners into national education programmes had also supported more comprehensive inclusion.

The PS cautioned that increases in nominal education allocations did not necessarily translate into proportional increases in real investment, stressing the need to monitor expenditure against both the national budget and GDP.

She said evidence-based financing and stronger expenditure monitoring would be critical to ensuring that increased investment translated into improved outcomes for learners.

The National Treasury's 2026/27 Budget Statement allocated Sh784.5 billion to the Education Sector, including Sh424.3 billion for the Teachers Service Commission, Sh136.6 billion for Basic Education, Sh163.9 billion for Higher Education, Sh1.3 billion for Science, Innovation and Research and Sh58.5 billion for Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

The Second EAC Regional Conference on Education brings together policymakers, educators, researchers, development partners and other stakeholders to discuss ways of transforming education systems across the region.

The four-day conference, being held in Nairobi from Aug. 25 to 28, is being conducted under the theme, "Transforming Education in East Africa: From Commitments to Impact, Fostering Resilient and Future-Ready Systems for Sustainable Development."

Kenya overtakes Egypt as Africa's top milk producer

BY JOSEPH KAMOLO (KNA)

Kenya has overtaken Egypt to become Africa's leading milk producer, with annual output rising from 4.6 billion litres to 5.4 billion litres, as Government reforms seek to transform livestock farming into a commercially driven, trillion-shilling industry.

Livestock Development Principal Secretary Jonathan Mueke, said the growth reflected a broader transformation in the livestock sector, which has historically sustained pastoralist communities while delivering limited economic returns.

Speaking during the fifth edition of the Kenya Meat Expo and Conference, Mueke said the Government is implementing measures to increase productivity, improve market access and raise incomes across the livestock value chain.

He said meat exports had increased by 87 per cent, from Sh8.9 billion to Sh16.4 billion, while dairy exports had grown from Sh4.9 billion to Sh14.2 billion.

"These are not just statistics. They represent livelihoods transformed, families lifted, and a sector finally realising its immense potential," Mueke said.

He said the Government's ambition was to grow the livestock and meat sector into a Sh1 trillion industry by focusing on genetics, disease control, traceability and aggregation.

Under the National Livestock Breeding Programme, the Kenya Animal Genetic Resources Centre (KAGRC) has distributed more than 1.7 million doses of bull semen and maintained a strategic reserve of over 724,000 straws.

Mueke said subsidised sexed semen is now available at Sh1,000, down from Sh8,000, following a Presidential directive, significantly lowering the cost of accessing improved genetics for smallholder farmers.

Kenya has also exported semen to Sierra Leone, Mauritius, Rwanda, Burundi and Nigeria, strengthening its position as a regional centre for animal genetics.

On disease control, Mueke said more than 18 million animals have been vaccinated against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR) through the National Mass Livestock Vaccination Campaign launched in January 2025.

He said the Kenya Veterinary Vaccines Production Institute (KEVEVAPI) had manufactured more than 114 million vaccine doses since August 2022, with annual production increasing from 6.6 million to 41 million doses.

The PS said disease control is critical to protecting farmers' livelihoods, strengthening food security and meeting international market requirements.

He said the Animal Identification and Traceability System (ANITRAC), which uses RFID tags to track livestock from birth to processing, would strengthen disease surveillance, curb illegal livestock movement and open access to premium export markets.

The system is currently being piloted on Government farms and private ranches as the country prepares for nationwide rollout.

Mueke said the Government is changing how pastoralists participate in the livestock economy through County Livestock Investment Companies (CLICs), which will enable them to aggregate animals, access finance and collectively negotiate better markets.

The Government has established a Sh5 billion Pastoralist Livestock Business Fund to support more than 350,000 pastoralists in 21 arid and semi-arid counties to establish and operate CLICs.

PS Oluga calls for stronger integration of HIV services

BY MICHAEL OMONDI (KNA)

Principal Secretary (PS) for Medical Services Dr Ouma Oluga has called for the integration of HIV prevention, treatment and care into the broader health system to ensure clients receive comprehensive services as Kenya advances Universal Health Coverage and strengthens primary healthcare.

Dr. Oluga made the remarks during a visit to the National AIDS and STI Control Programme (NASCOP) at Afya Annex in Nairobi, where he reviewed programme operations, assessed service delivery, and engaged staff involved in coordinating Kenya's response to HIV and sexually transmitted infections.

Dr Andrew Mulwa led him through the programme's key operational areas and introduced him to the technical and support teams.

Notably, the PS highlighted NASCOP's role in providing national coordination, technical guidance and support for HIV and STI prevention, treatment and care.

"Closer integration will enable clients to access HIV services alongside other essential healthcare services," he added.

Dr Oluga also interacted with staff to understand their responsibilities, operational needs and contribution to the national health agenda.

He at the same time assessed the programme's working environment and identified areas requiring attention to support effective service delivery.

Ultimately, the PS commended the NASCOP team for its dedication and contribution to Kenya's HIV response, reaffirming the Ministry of Health's commitment to supporting its workforce and strengthening collaboration across programmes and institutions.

The Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga (Right) is taken through the programme operations of the National AIDS and STI Control Programme (NASCOP) by the Head of NASCOP, Dr Andrew Mulwa at Afya Annex in Nairobi

Ministry orders crackdown on illegal pesticides

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A(KNA)

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mutahi Kagwe has ordered a nationwide crackdown on illegal and unsafe pesticides.

The CS warned that Kenya will not become a dumping ground for products banned in other countries.

Kagwe said the Government would tighten controls at border points and across the domestic market to protect farmers, consumers and the food chain from hazardous chemicals.

"My pronouncement is clear: a pesticide banned anywhere in the world will be banned in Kenya," Kagwe said.

He added that countries within the East African Community (EAC) should adopt a common position on banned pesticides, with Kenya also pushing for similar harmonisation across the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA).

The CS said Kenya had a responsibility to protect its population from pesticides associated with serious health risks, particularly where scientific evidence raises concerns about long-term exposure.

The Government's tough stance comes as the Pest Control Products Board (PCPB) reports a 95 per cent reduction in unauthorised and smuggled pesticides entering the country.

PCPB Chief Executive Fredrick Muchiri told the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries that the regulator had deployed officers to 10 major gazetted border points and ports.

The development marks a significant shift from 2024, when the regulator had no permanent officers stationed at the country's points of entry.

Enhanced surveillance, including monitoring of porous sections of the Loitoktok border, has helped disrupt routes previously used by pesticide smugglers.

The figures were presented during engagements between the Senate committee and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development in Malindi.

The crackdown follows a scientific review by PCPB covering 430 end-use pesticide products.

The review resulted in 77 products being withdrawn from the Kenyan market, while 202 products were restricted for use on various crops and 151 others placed under further review.

Kagwe said the measures were necessary to ensure Kenya does not become a destination for pesticides rejected by other jurisdictions.

"We should not be a destination for products that have been rejected elsewhere," the CS said, arguing that harmonised regulations across the region would prevent banned products from simply being diverted to neighbouring markets.

The enforcement drive has now shifted beyond the borders to agrovet shops and other points of sale.

Kagwe directed PCPB to intensify nationwide inspections to ensure pesticides on the market are properly registered, genuine, compliant with regulations and within their approved shelf life.

Expired, counterfeit, smuggled and unauthorised products found on shelves will be removed and offenders prosecuted.

Prime CS calls for stronger African diplomatic capacity

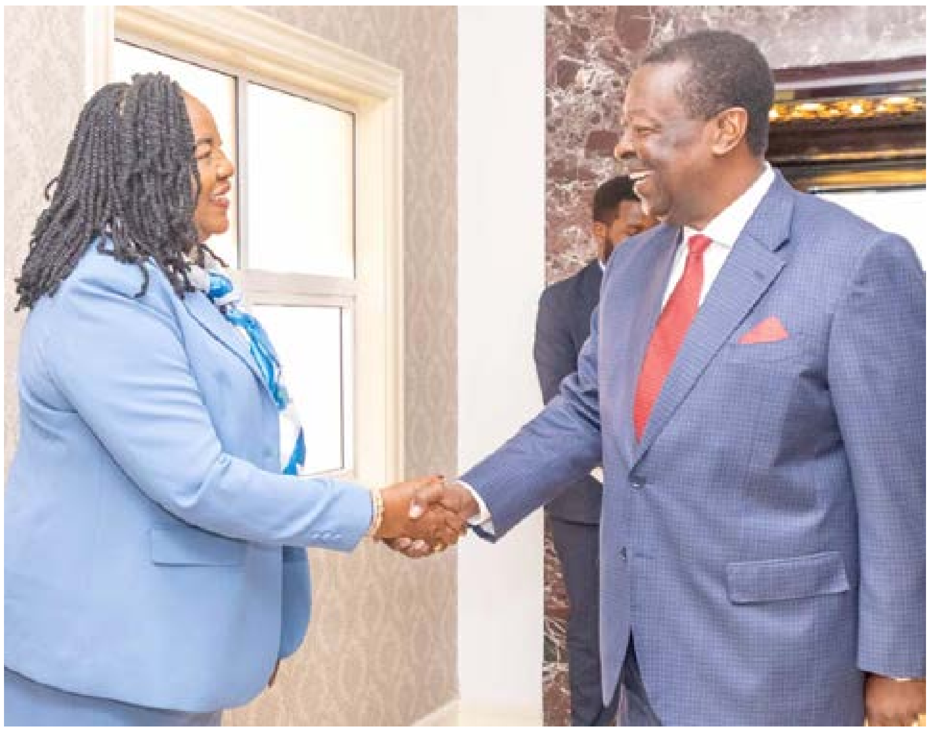
BY HASSAN ADAN ALI (PCO)

Prime Cabinet Secretary (PCS) and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Musalia Mudavadi, has called for sustained investment in diplomatic training and professional development in Africa.

Mudavadi stressed that Africa must strengthen the capacity of its diplomatic corps to turn representation at international forums into meaningful influence over decisions shaping the global order.

Speaking at the launch of the Foreign Service Academy Resource Mobilisation Strategy 2026–2029, Mudavadi said diplomatic influence should not be measured by the number of seats African representatives occupy at regional and international forums, but by their ability to negotiate effectively, shape agendas, build strategic partnerships and secure outcomes that advance national and continental interests.

"The question is whether we are going to have a meaningful presence at these tables, or simply presence," Dr. Mudavadi said.



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Musalia Mudavadi exchanges greetings with Dr. Ida Odinga during the launch of the Foreign Service Academy Resource Mobilisation Strategy 2026–2029, which seeks to strengthen diplomatic training, deepen strategic partnerships and enhance the capacity of diplomats to advance Kenya's and Africa's interests in an increasingly complex global environment.

He stressed that securing a seat at an international forum is only the beginning. The greater test, he noted, is whether diplomats have the expertise and strategic capacity to influence the decisions ultimately reached.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary said the international system is undergoing profound changes, with shifting geopolitical alliances, pressure on multilateral institutions, evolving regional economic blocs and emerging security and technological challenges reshaping the environment in which diplomacy is conducted.

He said these developments require a diplomatic corps equipped with deep knowledge of global affairs, technical expertise, sophisticated negotiation skills and the strategic foresight to anticipate and respond to rapidly evolving international dynamics.

Modern diplomacy, Dr. Mudavadi noted, increasingly encompasses complex negotiations on trade, development financing, climate change, technology, peace and security and other emerging global challenges.

Diplomats must, therefore, be able to navigate these interconnected issues, while protecting national interests and contributing to Africa's wider objectives of peace, stability, integration and sustainable development.

Mudavadi challenged the Foreign Service Academy, to expand its ambition beyond Kenya and position itself as a continental centre of excellence for diplomatic training, research and professional development.

"We need to transform the Academy into a continental hub that would create opportunities for African countries to pool expertise, share experiences and jointly invest in the development of professionals capable of advancing African interests in an increasingly competitive global order," he said.

He said a stronger continental approach to diplomatic capacity building would enable African countries to share expertise, strengthen professional networks and build collective negotiating capacity.

This, he noted, is particularly important in international institutions, where technical knowledge and strategic coalition-building are increasingly critical to securing favourable outcomes.

The Foreign Service Academy Resource Mobilisation Strategy 2026–2029, provides a framework for supporting this ambition through diversification of the Academy's financing base, strengthened strategic partnerships and mobilisation of resources for training, research, digital transformation, infrastructure and emerging areas of diplomatic practice.

Government to complete 45,000 new Affordable Housing units by December

The Government will make 45,000 housing units available to the market between now and December valued at approximately Sh52 billion

BY ERASTUS GICHOHI AND BEATRICE WANJIKU(KNA)

The Government targets to complete 45,000 affordable housing units nationwide by the end of this year.

The state seeks to expand access to long-term and affordable financing for prospective homeowners.

Speaking at the Kenya Affordable Housing Conference (KAHC) 2026 in Naivasha, Principal Secretary for Housing and Urban Development Charles Hinga said the Affordable Housing Programme had moved beyond policy and now driving construction, job creation and economic activity across the country.

Hinga said more than 280,000 units were currently under construction nationwide at a contract value of approximately Sh731.5 billion, with a further Sh300 billion in contracts pending approval. This is expected to push the total value of housing contracts under construction beyond Sh1 trillion.

He said the programme had generated between 640,000 and one million direct and indirect jobs, stimulating demand for cement, steel, timber, transport, plumbing, fabrication and professional services.

Hinga said the programme's success should not be measured solely by the number of houses built, but by whether Kenyans could afford to occupy and own them.

He challenged the Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company (KMRC), banks, Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOs), pension funds, insurance companies and development partners to work together towards lowering mortgage rates and expanding access to affordable housing finance.

Hinga described the housing programme as an economic transformation instrument capable of building industries, transferring skills and creating employment.

He cited plans for local manufacture and assembly of housing components, saying the Government is seeking to attract international manufacturers to establish production facilities in Kenya.

Affordable housing project at Karagita Estate in Naivasha under construction. The project has created job opportunities for local youth and micro, small and medium enterprises, stimulating the local economy. Photo by Erastus Gichohi.

He said housing developments were being paired with essential infrastructure, including water, sanitation, electricity, schools, health facilities, roads, recreational facilities, broadband connectivity and clean cooking solutions.

"The Government will make 45,000 housing units available to the market between now and December valued at approximately Sh52 billion, and I challenge banks and SACCOs to help prospective homeowners access financing," Hinga said.

He said the 45,000 units could generate approximately Sh1.5 billion in origination fees for financial institutions and projected that the housing finance portfolio could grow from Sh52 billion to about Sh200 billion within 12 months.

KMRC Chief Executive Officer Johnstone Oltetia said the company was focused on bridging the gap between housing supply and Kenyans' ability to purchase homes.

First Lady calls for urgent action to protect children from 'Triple Threat'

BY SITNA OMAR (KNA)

First Lady Rachel Ruto has called for concerted action to protect children and adolescents from the "Triple Threat" of HIV infections, teenage pregnancies and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

The First Lady warned that young people continue to bear the consequences of challenges they did not create.

Speaking during an advocacy and mentorship forum for adolescents and young people at Mawego Technical Training Institute in Karachuonyo Constituency, she urged adults to move beyond warnings and create supportive environments where young people can seek help and discuss difficult issues without fear.

She said protecting children requires adults to listen, guide and walk alongside them as they navigate challenges that expose them to exploitation, abuse, teenage pregnancy and HIV infection.

"Sometimes our children do not need another warning but someone to walk with them," she said.

Rachel said the national campaign to end the Triple Threat by 2027 had expanded beyond Nairobi to Homa Bay, Samburu, West Pokot and Uasin Gishu Counties.

More than 220 health facilities have joined the initiative, while over 200 healthcare providers have been trained to offer adolescent-friendly services.

She urged parents and guardians to create homes where children can speak openly about their challenges and receive support.

"We cannot tell children to speak if we are not prepared to listen. We cannot tell them to seek help if the door they knock on is closed," she said.

Homa Bay Governor Gladys Wanga said children were increasingly shouldering responsibilities meant for adults, particularly in households affected by HIV.

She said some children care for sick parents, while others become heads of households after losing their parents.

Wanga said Homa Bay had made progress in reducing teenage pregnancies, with annual cases falling from about 14,000 when her administration took office in 2022 to approximately 7,000 currently.

"We have cut it by half. It is still not what we want, but it means there is progress," she said, attributing the decline to interventions by national and county governments, communities and development partners.

Kenya's First Lady, Mama Rachel Ruto during an advocacy and mentorship engagement with adolescents and young people at Mawego Technical Training Institute in Karachuonyo Constituency, where leaders called for urgent action against HIV, teenage pregnancy and SGBV.

She highlighted mentorship programmes, including the Governor's Mentorship Camp, which brings professionals and community leaders together to mentor girls and address challenges affecting them.

"A mentored girl is empowered. A mentored child is strong. They are focused. They know where they are going," she said.

Dr Andrew Mulwa, Head of the National HIV and STI Control Programme (NASCOP), said Kenya had made significant progress in HIV testing and treatment but continued to face new infections among young people.

He said about 1.4 million people were living with HIV, with approximately 1.35 million receiving antiretroviral treatment. About 93 per cent know their HIV status, 91 per cent are on treatment and 87 per cent have achieved viral suppression.

National Syndemic Disease Control Council CEO Douglas Bosire said new HIV infections had declined from about 94,000 in 2005 to 13,936 in 2025.

However, young people remain disproportionately affected, with those aged 15-24 accounting for 41 per cent of new infections among people aged 15 and above.

He added that about 646 girls aged 10-19 attended antenatal care clinics daily in 2025, highlighting the need for stronger prevention and protection measures.

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr Ouma Oluga said the Ministry of Health would continue working with national and county governments to strengthen health services for women and children.

The leaders called for sustained community action, mentorship, adolescent-friendly health services and stronger protection systems to safeguard children and enable them to realise their potential.

Q & A Spotlight

Digital connectivity, infrastructure & Africa's digital future

In this Q&A segment, Principal Secretary for Broadcasting and Telecommunications, Stephen Isaboke emphasizes the Government's commitment to digital infrastrature and connectivity as an anchor to sustainable development. He spoke in an interview with Global Telecommunications firm, Fibrehome. Excerpts extracted by Violet Otindo.

Q: What role does connectivity play in the development and digital future of Kenya?

A: The current administration, under President Dr. William Ruto, made the digital superhighway and creative economy one of the five pillars of his development agenda - and a commitment in his manifesto. Since taking office in 2022, government has focused heavily on cable infrastructure, committing to build 100,000 kilometres of fibre cable across the country, reaching every part of it. Alongside this, we're building "Jitume Hubs"; digital hubs for rural youth with a target of one in each of the country's 1,450 wards, giving local youth access to internet services and education.

The President also committed to 25,000 free public WiFi points nationwide, because connectivity in Nairobi, Mombasa or Kisumu isn't the same story once you get outside the major urban centres - and the President was driven by wanting the hustler nation, the mama mbogas and small traders, to be part of the digital economy too.

Connectivity matters because today you almost don't exist unless you have a digital footprint. With around 84 million mobile connections and 4G reaching 97% of the country and 5G work underway to improve the experience, we're making sure people can access services across every sector: education, agriculture, and healthcare, including accessing SHA, you need to first identify yourself with your digital footprint, going through KYC, before you can access medical services wherever you are.

It also cuts across government services like eCitizen, which now has close to 25 million users, roughly half the population, accessing things like driving licences, passports and police clearances without ever leaving home. Digital connectivity removes friction, cuts inefficiency, and brings better services to people - it's a critical driver of the economy.

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Q: Coverage alone is not enough, what matters is meaningful connectivity that people can use to improve their lives." What are the key challenges in closing that gap and reaching more people and communities?

A: Companies such as FibreHome run the metro fibre through cities and along highways, but the real challenge is the last mile - connecting institutions and final users in their homes. That's a big part of what we're delivering under the digital superhighway pillar, working with Kenya Power and the ICT Authority to get cable to public hospitals, public schools, government offices and homes.

The same principle applies to mobile broadband - mobile network operators have expanded from 4G to significant 5G and LTE coverage, especially in the major cities where smartphone use is high.

Beyond physical access, affordability is the other half of the equation. Government has pushed for data to be as accessible and affordable as possible, so that even with a dollar, someone can get enough data for the day to stay connected - that's what makes connectivity meaningful.

On the barriers side, the biggest issue is access to affordable, internet-ready smart devices - government has responded by reducing or removing import duty on these. And finally, we need healthy competition among mobile network operators and cable network providers, like FibreHome and others, to keep driving prices down and coverage up.

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Q: Why is building strong and reliable digital infrastructure so important as Africa continues its digital transformation?

A: Reliable digital infrastructure is national infrastructure, it belongs in the same category as roads, power and water. It's the foundation everything else is built on. That's why we're anchoring this in policy: Kenya's AI Strategy 2025-2030 and the draft AI Bill are designed to ensure the infrastructure we build today can support the technologies of tomorrow.

Q: How important is cooperation between governments, operators, technology providers and other partners in achieving this vision?

A: Government cannot build this alone. Our approach is to partner with industry operators, technology providers and investors all have a role to play alongside government. Public-private partnerships are how we move faster and reach further than any one actor could on its own.

Q: What kind of digital future do you envision for Kenya and Africa?

A: We envision Kenya becoming a leading digital and AI hub in Africa. The goal is universal, affordable and secure connectivity for every Kenyan. Ultimately, connectivity should let Africa move from being narrated by others to telling its own story - on its own terms, to the world.

Q: President Ruto has made digital transformation a significant part of his development agenda. What does that agenda mean to you at the most fundamental level?

A: It matters enormously. At the heart of all this is a very fundamental question: What are we actually doing for people? The President's agenda is not simply about putting infrastructure in the ground or connecting people to networks. The ultimate objective has to be socioeconomic transformation.

We can talk about technology, connectivity and the digital economy, but ultimately we have to look at the impact on people's lives. Are we improving education? Are we creating opportunities? Are we helping people access healthcare, markets and government services? Are we enabling young people to build businesses, conduct research and develop solutions? Those are the questions that matter. And particularly when we talk about young people, I always say that young people are not simply the future. They are the present. So we have to give them the tools and opportunities to participate now.

Q: The Digital Superhighway is one of the flagship elements of this agenda. What should Kenyans ultimately expect from it?

A: The Digital Superhighway is about creating the infrastructure that allows people to participate in the digital economy. But we have to think about it as more than fibre and connectivity. The Government's targets—including 100,000 kilometres of fibre, 25,000 public Wi-Fi hotspots and 1,450 digital hubs are important because they create the foundation for access. But the real question is what happens after we build that infrastructure. A digital hub should not simply be a building with a connection. It should become a place where a student can learn, where an entrepreneur can develop a business, where someone can acquire digital skills, where a researcher can access information and where citizens can access services. That is where the Digital Superhighway becomes meaningful.

Q: So would you say the President's agenda is ultimately about inclusion?

A: Yes. Inclusion has to be at the centre. We have to make sure that digital transformation is not something that benefits only people who already have smartphones, computers, high-speed internet and the necessary skills. It has to reach people in rural areas, young people, entrepreneurs, women and communities that have historically been underserved. The objective is to give as many people as possible an opportunity to participate. And that is why connectivity, digital skills, education and access to services have to be considered together.

Q: Kenya has made significant progress in connectivity. But you have drawn a distinction between coverage and meaningful connectivity. What is the difference?

A: Coverage is only the starting point. You can say that a particular percentage of the population is covered by a network, but that does not necessarily mean those people are benefiting from connectivity. Someone may live within a coverage area but be unable to afford a smartphone or the data required to use the internet. They may lack the digital skills necessary to use technology productively. Or there may be no relevant digital services available to them. So we have to move beyond the question of, "Are you covered?" The more important question is: "What are you able to do with that connection?" Can you use it to improve your education? Can you access healthcare? Can you find employment? Can you run a business? Can you access government services? Can you conduct research? That is what **meaningful connectivity means.**

OPINION: INVESTMENT

Lamu Refinery: A game changer for the Coast—but we must prepare today

BY PROF. SHAUKAT ABDULRAZAK

The proposed Dangote oil refinery in Lamu could be a game changer for Kenya and particularly the Coast. The planned facility is reported at approximately 700,000 barrels per day, larger in capacity than Dangote's 650,000-barrel-per-day Lagos refinery. Construction could take up to three years, while the investment could be comparable to the Lagos refinery, which ultimately cost more than US$20 billion—over KSh2.5 trillion at indicative exchange rates.

For coastal communities, this represents an extraordinary opportunity. But opportunities of this magnitude favour those who prepare early. We must plan forward to minimise agonising and maximise organisation.

The Nigerian experience demonstrates the scale. Dangote reports that more than 30,000 people worked at its refinery project site through contractors. It trained over 400 artisans from host communities, sent 900 young engineers for refinery training abroad and provided specialist training to process engineers.

Dangote knows why he is doing this. What could this mean for Kenya? If the widely cited expectation of around 60,000 jobs associated with the Lamu development and its ecosystem materialises, we should start planning occupational requirements now.

An indicative workforce scenario could include 15,000–20,000 construction and civil workers; 8,000–10,000 welders, pipefitters, fabricators and mechanical trades; 4,000–6,000 electricians, instrumentation technicians and related technical workers; 3,000–5,000 engineers and other professionals; 5,000–8,000 logistics, transport and equipment personnel; and thousands more in safety, security, administration, catering, accommodation and other services.

These are planning estimates, but they demonstrate the scale of preparation required. During my tenure as first chair of LAPSSET I had provided a similar scenario, however little was done on human resource preparedness. I hope this time we shall do it right.

The first requirement is therefore a skills audit—immediately. National and county governments especially the coastal ones, working with the investor, should establish precisely what occupations will be needed, in what numbers, at what stage and to what international certification.

The Coast has six counties—Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, Tana River, Lamu and Taita Taveta—with a combined population of about 4.3 million people according to the 2019 census. This is a substantial human-capital base that should be mobilised and prepared. A Coastal Refinery Skills Register should identify engineers, technicians, artisans, graduates and young people requiring additional training. A lot of work but however needs to be done in training- here Iam challenging Universities there to prioritize this. My state department is willing to provide advise and guidance on technological and innovation areas.

Second, we should train before recruitment. TVETs and national polytechnics should urgently expand internationally certified training in coded welding, pipefitting, scaffolding, rigging, fabrication, industrial electricity, instrumentation, mechanical maintenance, occupational safety and heavy-equipment operation. Universities should strengthen some areas including chemical, mechanical, electrical, civil and environmental engineering alongside AI, robotics, cybersecurity, automation and digital systems. A great opportunity to identify and strengthen niche in the sector - Cluster approach.

A dedicated Lamu Industrial Skills Centre of Excellence should be established, complemented by adequate training institutions across the six coastal counties. Hundreds of engineers and technicians should receive refinery attachments locally and internationally before commissioning. I hope country governments will also supplement with adequate financial support to students.

Third, prepare enterprises before procurement. Such A multi-trillion-shilling project will definitely purchase enormous quantities of goods and services. If even 10% of project-related procurement were competitively captured by our enterprises, the value could potentially run into hundreds of billions of shillings over the development period. Coastal MSMEs should therefore be prepared for opportunities in transport, food, accommodation, construction materials, protective equipment, ICT, engineering, maintenance, security and waste management. The vision of President William Ruto under BETA initiative and now Beyond 2030 is falling into place even faster. Additionally, it will be great opportunities for Banks and development-finance institutions to create supplier-financing windows so that qualified Kenyan businesses can execute major contracts.

Fourth, plan communities before expansion. Lamu County had only about 144,000 residents in the 2019 census. Even a temporary influx of 20,000–30,000 workers would therefore place significant additional pressure on housing, water, sanitation, healthcare, transport, schools, security and waste management. County and national planning must precede this growth. Visionary leadership will be needed here. Change of mindset and reset for transformation.

Fifth, protect Lamu's valuable marine, mangrove and cultural ecosystems through baseline scientific studies, continuous environmental monitoring and strong industrial emergency-response systems.

Most importantly, we must think beyond one refinery. Lamu Port already has three operational 400-metre berths, annual capacity of about 1.2 million TEUs, and a long-term plan for 23 berths. Integrated with LAPSSET, the refinery could catalyse petrochemicals, fertilizers, plastics, packaging, storage, logistics, engineering and manufacturing.

The Coast is the host and therefore has a historic opportunity, but this is also an opportunity for all 47 counties and beyond. Kenyan engineers, artisans, businesses, farmers, manufacturers and professionals should participate competitively. My people in Lamu and coastal region should not just be spectators but copilots on this trajectory.

Lamu can become, and should become much more than a refinery. It can become a new industrial, technology, skills and logistics hub for Eastern Africa. If Kenya is on trajectory of first world class status under the leadership of Visionary President William Ruto, the footprints could be noticed from lamu - and the coast in general being gate way to the development in Kenya. The opportunity is enormous. Lamu itakuwa muhimu, kama tutatia fahamu nakuchukua majukumu. The time to prepare is now. Thank you Aliko Dangote. It can be done!

— The author is the Principal Secretary of the State Department for Science, Research and Innovation. He can be reached at saabdulrazak@gmail.com

Murang'a County to roll out feeding programme to all public schools

BY BERNARD MUNYAO (KNA)

The County Government of Murang'a is set to roll out a county-wide school meals programme targeting more than 215,000 learners in public primary schools, Junior Secondary Schools (JSS) and Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres.

The programme, to be implemented in partnership with Food for Education (FFE), follows a successful two-year pilot conducted in 90 schools across the county.

In a public notice, Governor Dr Irungu Kang'ata said the programme would be expanded to all public schools, with the county government taking measures to ensure vulnerable learners are catered for while supporting local farmers.

"Following a successful two-year pilot in 90 schools, the County Government of Murang'a in partnership with Food for Education (FFE) will roll out the School Meals Programme to all public schools," said Kang'ata.

The notice stated that the pilot demonstrated that the vast majority of parents could afford to contribute towards the cost of school meals.

However, about 20,000 of the most vulnerable learners will have their meals paid for by the county administration.

The programme is expected to benefit approximately 215,000 learners in primary schools, JSS and 650 ECDE centres.

The initiative will also provide a ready market for agricultural produce from Murang'a farmers.

The programme will purchase approximately 200,000 packets of processed milk every month from the Murang'a County Creameries Union (MCCU), alongside other farm produce.

During the mango season between January and March, the programme is expected to purchase up to one million mangoes per month, creating an additional market for farmers.

Parents will also benefit from a reduction in the cost of school meals, with their contribution set to fall from Sh20 to Sh15 per child from January next year.

Muranga Governor Irungu Kang'ata serves food to pupils at Muthiria Primary School during the piloting of a feeding programme. (File photo)

Kang'ata indicated that in the current financial year, the county government has committed Sh200 million towards the programme.

The initiative is also expected to create employment opportunities through the recruitment of school coordinators and election of food champions by parents during community barazas.

Meanwhile, 67 new kitchens are under construction and are expected to be ready by October this year while kitchens constructed during the pilot phase will continue to operate.

SGR land acquisition begins in Kericho as construction plans advance

BY DOMINIC CHERES (KNA)

The Government has begun acquiring land for the 49.28-kilometre section of the Naivasha-Kisumu Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) traversing Kericho County, paving the way for construction of railway stations and other supporting infrastructure.

The process has entered the public engagement and pre-acquisition survey phase, with Kenya Railways undertaking pegging of the railway corridor and proposed station sites.

Speaking during the National Government Development County Implementation Coordination and Management Committee (NGD-CICMC) meeting in Kericho, Kenya Railways Engineer Shimron Munga said the route alignment had been completed, while surveys and preparations for land acquisition were ongoing.

> We are really trying to avoid interfering entirely with learning institutions around that station area, but we may touch on other government land

Kericho County Commissioner Omari Ali, who chaired the meeting, said the project had received strong support from residents and leaders, describing it as a major investment expected to transform transport and economic activity in the county.

Ali said the railway would improve connectivity, ease movement of people and goods and create new opportunities for businesses and communities along the corridor.

He urged residents and local leaders to cooperate with Kenya Railways and the National Government during land acquisition and construction to facilitate timely implementation and maximise the benefits of the project.

Munga said supplementary Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) and Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) studies were also at the sensitisation and socio-economic survey stage as the project progressed to the next phase.

The Phase 2B SGR line enters Kericho from Bomet at DK 264+900 and runs north-westwards for 23.25 kilometres to the Nyamira border at DK 288+150. It later re-enters Kericho from Homa Bay and continues for another 26.03 kilometres to the Kisumu border.

Munga said the major railway facility planned in the county was the Sotik North Intermediate Station at DK 266+900, approximately four kilometres north of Sotik Town.

A major SGR logistics hub and intermediate station is also planned at Tiiritab Moita in Bureti, covering approximately 125 acres. The logistics hub will occupy 65 acres, while the intermediate station will cover 60 acres.

The facility is expected to provide passenger and freight services, supporting the movement of agricultural produce and other goods along the Naivasha-Kisumu corridor.

Other planned facilities include a passing station at Ikonge at DK 276+400, a reserved passenger station at Awasi at DK 316+350 and another passing station at Kapsorok in Soin at DK 328+700.

Munga said Kenya Railways was working with affected communities and Government agencies to identify suitable land while minimising disruption to schools, public institutions and other community facilities.

"We are really trying to avoid interfering entirely with learning institutions around that station area, but we may touch on other government land," he said.

Extension of the Naivasha-Kisumu-Malaba Standard Gauge Railway

He said alternative public land could be considered where necessary, particularly where Government or county land was available.

Munga emphasised that public participation remained central to the project, with residents being consulted on land acquisition, the railway corridor and other issues affecting communities.

"Public participation is very important, and residents have been engaged on various issues, including the naming of one of the proposed stations," he said.

He added that landowners whose privately owned property is acquired for the railway would be compensated.

The NGD-CICMC meeting brought together National Government officials and representatives from Kenya Railways, Kenya Airports Authority, Kenya National Highways Authority, National Government Administration Officers and other Government agencies.

State to establish a national farmers training centre in Nakuru

BY CAROLINE NYAKIO (KNA)

The National Government will establish a National Farmers Training Centre at Marindas in Kuresoi North Sub-County in Nakuru.

The centre will help farmers to acquire modern agricultural skills and technologies and boost food security and agricultural productivity.

The proposed facility will be established at the newly commissioned Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) Seed Potato Production Centre, a 600-acre facility expected to serve as a hub for potato seed research and production.

It will bring agricultural research, extension services and practical training closer to farmers.

The centre was officially commissioned by Principal Secretary for the State Department for Agriculture Dr Paul Rono, who said the government would use the facility to strengthen seed research and production while creating a national platform for farmer training.

Rono said the planned National Farmers Training Centre would bridge the gap between agricultural research and farmers by providing practical training on modern production technologies, climate resilience, value addition and other emerging areas of agriculture.

"Our focus is to ensure that agricultural research does not remain within research institutions but reaches the farmer and translates into increased productivity, better incomes and improved food security," said Rono.

He said the proposed centre would provide a platform where farmers from across the country could access practical knowledge, interact with researchers and adopt technologies that respond to challenges experienced on their farms.

Nakuru Deputy Governor Dr David Kones, Principal Secretary for Agriculture Dr Paul Rono, Nakuru Woman Representative Liza Chelule Chepkorir, KALRO Director General Dr Patrick Ketiem and other officials examine potato varieties and seedlings during the commissioning of the KALRO Seed Potato Production Centre at Marindas, Kuresoi North, Nakuru County. Photo by Caroline Nyakio, KNA.

Rono noted that the Marindas facility would also strengthen the production and distribution of quality potato planting materials while supporting research aimed at improving yields and addressing diseases affecting the crop.

He said the government would continue investing in research and farmer training to ensure technologies developed by research institutions are translated into practical solutions that could be adopted by farmers.

Nakuru Deputy Governor Dr David Kones welcomed the establishment of the training centre, saying it would complement the county government's efforts to strengthen farmer capacity and promote modern agricultural practices.

Sh5.5bn Nanyuki-Doldol road construction begins

BY MUTURI MWANGI(KNA)

It is a sigh of relief for Laikipia North residents following the commencement of the long-awaited construction of the 58-kilometre Nanyuki-Doldol road.

The Sh5.5 billion project is expected to improve connectivity and access to essential services in the region.

Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) Resident Engineer Howard A. M'mayi, speaking during a public participation forum in Jua Kali, confirmed that the contract was active following a commencement meeting held in July. The upgrade to bitumen standard is expected to take 36 months.

"The project involves upgrading the road to bitumen standard and improving the existing bitumen sections from the main junction in Nanyuki town through Cedar Mall, Batuk and the Naibor turnoff," Eng. M'mayi said.

He added that the project would involve widening the carriageway, constructing shoulders and pedestrian walkways. Upon completion, the road will serve as a Class B national highway.

Eng. M'mayi said the project was prioritised following a directive by President William Ruto during his visit to the area, where he emphasised the need to connect Doldol residents to Nanyuki and the rest of the country through a reliable and motorable road.

"We have lost many lives while trying to transport patients from Doldol to Nanyuki for treatment and medical emergencies, including deliveries. Mothers, newborns and victims of banditry have died simply because of the state of that road," Laikipia North Member of Parliament Sarah Korer said.

"This project brings much-needed relief to the pastoral communities," she added.

Laikipia East Deputy County Commissioner Patrick Muli praised the initiative, saying improved road access would enhance security in an area that has been hampered by poor infrastructure.

He urged residents to support the government-led project and raise concerns early to avoid interference with its implementation.

Local residents expressed optimism that the project would boost businesses, improve transport and reduce vehicle breakdowns caused by the rough terrain.

"A lot of things have been affected in this region. However, we expect to benefit businesses and the transport sector and also minimise breakdowns of our vehicles due to poor roads. It is a sigh of relief, and we are going to wait for the given period until its completion," John Maina, a Jua Kali resident, said .

Pricilla Legei said she anticipated lower transport fares and easier movement of livestock and goods to markets, activities that had previously been hampered by the poor road network.

Nakuru scales up response to rising NCD burden

BY CAROLINE NYAKIO (KNA)

The County Government of Nakuru is scaling up response to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) which account for more than 40 per cent of hospital deaths and nearly half of inpatient admissions in the county.

The county has initiated a Continuous Medical Education (CME) programme for healthcare workers to enhance their capacity to prevent, diagnose and manage NCDs and related complications.

The programme targets medical officers, clinical officers and nurses deployed to frontline emergency units and is being conducted at the Nakuru County Teaching and Referral Hospital (NCTRH).

NCTRH Director Dr Santosh Devaraj said continuous professional development is central to safe, timely and evidence-based care for patients suffering from NCDs.

"Continuous medical education is essential in strengthening the capacity of our healthcare workers and ensuring that patients suffering from NCDs receive safe, timely, and evidence-based care," Dr Devaraj said.

He noted that the hospital administration is working closely with senior consultants and private development partners to improve patient outcomes and strengthen the management of NCD emergencies.

The current training sessions focus on prompt diagnosis and management of severe diabetic complications, including Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA) and Hyperosmolar Hyperglycemic State (HHS), which can lead to disability or death if not treated promptly.

Dr Devaraj explained that DKA and HHS are diabetic emergencies associated with severe hyperglycaemia and require rapid recognition and appropriate treatment.

The ongoing initiative is being supported by senior doctors at the hospital in collaboration with Getz Pharma.

The intervention comes at a critical time, with the Nakuru County 2025 Health Sector Report recording 31,456 newly diagnosed diabetes patients linked to clinical care during the 2024/25 financial year.

County records further indicate that more than 31,000 ongoing diabetes cases have been actively profiled and tracked across various sub-counties.

"The growing burden of NCDs has increased pressure on health systems to strengthen prevention, early diagnosis, treatment and management of complications, particularly in situations where access to specialized care and essential medicines remains a challenge," Dr Devaraj said.

According to the Ministry of Health, NCDs remain a major health burden nationally, requiring stronger prevention and treatment measures.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

ENERGIZING KENYA

NATIONAL OIL CORPORATION

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) NOTICE

National Oil Corporation of Kenya Limited invites eligible applicants (Consulting Firms) to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) as detailed below:

Tender Ref No.	Tender Details	Eligibility	Closing Date & Time (East Africa Time)
NOCK/PRC/03(1759) 2026-2027	Expression of Interest (EOI) for Consultancy Services (Consulting Firms) for rehabilitation works at National Oil Terminal, Nairobi	Open National	15th September 2026 at 1000hrs (East African Time)

The EOI documents as well as detailed information on labelling and submission procedures/ requirements for the EOI documents can be obtained from **https://nationaloil.co.ke/active-tenders/.**

AG. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

KENYA VISION 2030

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

PUBLIC NOTICE

STAKEHOLDER VALIDATION FORUM ON THE DRAFT KENYA INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION REGULATIONS, 2026

Pursuant to the Kenya Information and Communications Act (Cap 411A) and in compliance with the Statutory Instruments Act (Cap 2A), the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy, in consultation with the Communications Authority of Kenya, conducted a Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) on the revised Kenya Information and Communication Regulations.

The formulation of the Regulations has undergone an extensive stakeholder engagement process, including public participation, in line with Article 10 of the Constitution and sections 5 and 8 of the Statutory Instruments Act, Cap. 2A. The Public Notice issued on 26th August 2025 invited stakeholders and members of the public to submit their views, comments and inputs on the Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA). The submissions received through these consultation processes were carefully considered in the further development and revision of the draft Regulations. The revised draft Regulations and accompanying Regulatory Impact Statement are available on the Ministry's website at: **https://ict.go.ke/kica-regulations-documents-2026** and **https://www.ca.go.ke/kica-regulations-ria.**

The Ministry therefore invites all stakeholders and members of the public to review the above-mentioned documents and participate in the virtual Validation Exercise on the revised draft Regulations, as set out in the schedule below:

Date	Time	Draft Regulations
15th September, 2026	9:00 am – 12 noon	1. Kenya Information and Communications (General Licensing) Regulations, 2026 2. Kenya Information and Communications (Broadcasting) Regulations, 2026 3. Kenya Information and Communications (Postal and Courier) Regulations, 2026 4. Kenya Information and Communications (Type Approval of Electronic Communications Equipment) Regulations, 2026 5. Kenya Information and Communications (Numbering) Regulations, 2026
16th September, 2026	9:00 am – 12 noon	6. Kenya Information and Communications (Radiocommunication and Frequency Spectrum) Regulations, 2026 7. Kenya Information and Communications (Fair Competition and Equal Treatment) Regulations, 2026 8. Kenya Information and Communications (Tariff) Regulations, 2026 9. Kenya Information and Communications (Interconnection) Regulations, 2026 10. Kenya Information and Communications (Infrastructure Sharing) Regulations, 2026
17th September, 2026	9:00 am – 12 noon	11. Kenya Information and Communications (Consumer Protection) Regulations, 2026 12. Kenya Information and Communications (Electronic Certification Administration) Regulations, 2026 13. Kenya Information and Communications (Domain Name Administration) Regulations, 2026 14. Kenya Information and Communications (Compliance and Enforcement) Regulations, 2026 15. Kenya Information and Communications (Administration of Universal Service Fund) Regulations, 2026

Participants may register and join through the following link: **https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/57a05fa0-2a29-4aeb-a976-b3260ed9b0f5@cbc4f560-79f7-4ef7-ad07-430f203044a5?-source=copyLinkLegacyShareLinkDialog. Please note that registration before joining is mandatory.** The Ministry remains committed to ensuring transparency, stakeholder engagement, and inclusivity in shaping Kenya's ICT sector and digital economy.

CABINET SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

KENYA VISION 2030

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

National Environment Management Authority

Popo Road, Off Mombasa Road,
P O BOX 67839-00200, Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: 0724253398, 0735013046,
Email: info@nema.go.ke, Website: www.nema.go.ke

nema

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (ESIA) STUDY REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED MARITIME RESCUE COORDINATION CENTRE IN KISUMU PORT, KISUMU COUNTY

Pursuant to Section 59 of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act CAP 387, the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has received an Environmental Impact Assessment Study Report for the above proposed project.

The proponent, Kenya Maritime Authority, proposes to construct a Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) to be undertaken in two phases with Phase 1 involving construction of the MRCC building, ambulance bay, 70 car parking spaces, and Phase 2 comprising development of a 20m long jetty, a boat spillway, associated facilities and amenities in Kisumu Port, Kisumu County.

The following are the anticipated impacts and proposed mitigation measures:

S/N	IMPACTS	MITIGATION MEASURES
1	Potential conflicts with neighbors and other road users	• Liaise with County Government of Kisumu to determine access road to the shoreline • Restrict access to the construction site only and not any of the other areas • Erect warning sign along the access road to forewarn on the ongoing construction works • Liaise with KRC and install a level crossing at the railway line • Liaise with County Government of Kisumu, KPA and the BMU to determine the alternative route to the landing site
2	Reclamation of riparian land from the lake	• Apply and obtain a Permit from Water Resources Authority (WRA) to riparian land enhance management conditions • Use of silt curtains during reclamation to prevent siltation/sediment flow into neighboring areas • Create an alternative green space by planting trees within the project site • Ensure the project structures can withstand changes in climatic conditions • Sustain stakeholder consultations to ensure continuous support for the project • Comply with the provision of the Physical Planning and Development Act, 2019 • Comply with the provisions of Water Resources Regulations, 2021
3	Water quality degradation	• Construction of silt traps and embankments along the shoreline area to manage storm water from the construction site • Construction could be carried out during the dry season and at times of minimal rainfall (<20mm) • Use of excavated soil material for backfilling and leveling as well as compacting • Provision of waste collection infrastructure at the site including litter bins
4	Traffic congestion	• Deploy fleet officers to manage traffic flow in and out of the site • Collaborate with KRC to enhance management of cargo transportation and construction activities • Signage and barricades should be used as part of the typical construction traffic controls. • Offload of construction materials be done on the site and not on the road reserves to ensure smooth flow of traffic • Comply with the provisions of the Traffic Act, 2016
5	Occupational safety and health risks	• Register site as workplace with DOSHs • Obtain insurance cover for workers at the site • Prepare and implement an emergency response plan • Provide well stocked first aid kits and trained personnel at the site • Train workers on first aid services and working at the lakeside area • Provide adequate and appropriate PPEs and enforce on their use • Erect safety signage at all active construction areas • Provide an incident/accident register • Carry site safety risk assessment Install signage to forewarn people on ongoing demolition activities • Ensure demolitions are carried out by a licensed contractor • Ensure workers are given the correct hand tools and equipment for the jobs assigned Comply with the Environmental • Management and Coordination Air Quality Regulations, 2024 • Comply with Noise and Excessive Vibration Pollution (Control) Regulations, 2009 • Comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Act, 2007
6	Air pollution	• Install appropriate and adequate dust screens around the project site • Sprinkle water at active excavation areas and unpaved access road to suppress fugitive dust • Cover stockpiles of construction materials (aggregates, sand and fill material) to reduce dust emissions especially during windy conditions • Provide adequate Personal Protective Equipment and enforce on their use among personnel • Use serviceable machinery/equipment and trucks • Comply with the provisions of Environmental Management and • Coordination (Air Quality) Regulations, 2024
7	Noise pollution	• Ensure excavation and construction works are limited to daytime hours only (i.e., between 8am to 5pm) • Locate peak noise producing machines away from neighboring residential developments • Provide and enforce the use of appropriate PPEs to workers and visitors accessing the peak noise producing areas • Sensitize truck drivers to avoid unnecessary hooting and running of vehicle engines • Comply with the Environmental Management and Coordination (Noise and Excessive Vibration Pollution) (Control) Regulations, 2009
8	Water use and effluent management	• Sensitize workers on water conservation • Monitoring water consumption streams by the project • Use of mobile toilets from a NEMA licensed waste contractor for workforce sanitation • Comply with the provisions of the Environmental Management and • Coordination (Water Quality) Regulations, 2024
9	Solid waste management	• Use overburden in backfilling and landscaping the site • Procure construction material based on the Bill of Quantities to avoid wastage • Procure and strategically place adequate solid waste collection bins within the construction site. The waste collection bins should have capacity for segregation of wastes into plastics, glass, paper, metal and organic wastes to promote recycling • Maximize re-use of recyclables and minimize use of packaged materials • Create awareness on the process of solid waste collection, segregation and proper disposal among the workforce • Procure a sizeable central solid waste collection bin with chambers to accommodate separated wastes • Procure the services of a NEMA licensed solid waste handler for disposal of solid wastes from the central collection bin • Ensure timely collection and disposal of wastes • Sell of the recyclable to recycling companies • Comply with the Environmental Management and Coordination (Waste Management) Regulations, 2024 and the Sustainable Waste Management Act, 2022
10	Labor influx and social concerns	• Contractor to prepare a site-specific Labor Influx Management Plan and implementation framework which should be approved by KMA prior to project commencement. • Implement measures to prevent, identify, address, and resolve conflicts before and when they occur including Sexual Exploitation Abused and Harassment (SEAH) at the workplace including anonymous reporting systems. • KMA to ensure development and implementation of a Grievances Redress Mechanism (GRM) by the contractor throughout the project phases
11	Potential conflicts with other lake users and stalling of the project	• Develop and implement Grievances Redress Mechanism • Install silt curtains around the jetty to reduce potential increase in turbidity in adjacent waters • Develop and implement a Water Quality Monitoring Plan during the construction of the jetty facility
12	Navigational risks	• Create awareness among the local fishermen on the construction of the jetty and its extend on the lake side • Ensure placement of marker buoys and hazard demarcations during construction of the jetty to warn fishermen of potential dangers • Ensure the barges and construction areas are well lit at night • The barge used in the construction should have old tyres affixed continuously on all sides to minimize potential impacts in case of drifting of fishermen's boats into the area
13	Increased Human – Wildlife Conflicts	• The proponent should fence off the outer fridges of areas where there is hippo grass which are the key foraging habitats for the hippos. • Liaise with Kenya Wildlife Service to manage hippos and crocodiles sighted within the area • Keep records on wildlife sightings, incidents and action taken
14	Water pollution	• Install a bio digester to manage wastewater flow from the building • Conduct quarterly water quality monitoring on the flows from the bio digester to ensure it meets the standards for discharge into the aquatic environment • Installation of solid waste screens along storm water drains and ensuring their regular maintenance and monitoring • Comply with Marpol Convention 73/78 and KMA Act, 2012 • Comply with provisions of Environmental Management and Coordination (Water • Quality) Regulations, 2024
15	Oil Spills	• Provide adequate oil response kits for containment of oil spills • Ensure workers are regularly trained and sensitized on oil spill cleaning and containment • Refueling of boats to be undertaken by competent personnel • Compliance with the National Marine Spills Response Contingency Plan
16	Impacts of climate change	• Consider lake level rise in MRCC project design. The MRCC design for both the building and the jetty should consider climate change extremes which include lake level rise and recession which portend flooding and lack of access respectively • Maximize on natural lighting and ventilation by ensuring the building infrastructure such as offices rely less on-air conditioners • Ensure optimal insulation to reduce heating and cooling requirements • Prepare annual carbon footprint reports and implement recommendations • Comply with the Climate Change Act 2023, National Climate Change Action Plan 20232027, and Marpol Convention 73/78 (MARPOL Annex VI)
17	Risks posed by aquatic macrophytes	• Implement the Early Warning System for drifting, proliferation of aquatic macrophytes prepare by KPA in collaboration with Trade Mark Africa (TMA)
18	Loss of lives and economic decline	• Ensure regular refresher courses for SAR staff • Use navigational lights to demarcate the jetty area and install appropriate lights to forewarn other lake users on the presence of the jetty at night
19	Impacts related to electro-magnetic radiations	• Restrict entry to server rooms • Ensure regular servicing of the electronic equipment • Ensure encryption and other security measures mitigate risks of insecurity
20	Structural failure	• Ensure regular inspection of the MRCC building, jetty and the retaining walls by a licensed engineer to check its structural integrity • Ensure the design and construction of the jetty and lake wall conforms to the building code and implementation is supervised by registered engineers
21	Increased shoreline erosion	• The retaining wall structure should include pressure absorption points to use up energy from wave action
22	Loss of SAR services	• Look for a suitable alternative site for MRCC • Provide alternative infrastructure for SAR services

A full report of the proposed project is available for inspection during working hour:

1) Director General, NEMA
NEMA Head Office
Popo Road, off Mombasa Road,
P.O. Box 67839-00200,Nairobi

2) County Director of Environment
KISUMU COUNTY

A copy of the EIA report can be downloaded at **www.nema.go.ke**

NEMA invites members of the public to submit oral or written comments within thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director General, NEMA to assist the Authority in the decision making process for this project. Kindly quote ref. No. **NEMA/ENVIS/SR/00419**

Comments can also be e-mailed to **info@nema.go.ke**

MAMO B MAMO PhD, EBS
DIRECTOR GENERAL

Kazi Majuu football tournament to connect youth to global jobs

The tournament is part of the government's three-pronged strategy to address youth unemployment through Kazi kwa Ground, Kazi kwa Mtandao and Kazi Majuu.

BY DICKSON MWITI (KNA)

The Second Edition of the Kazi Majuu Football Tournament has brought together young people in North Imenti Constituency, combining football with access to information on employment, skills development and safe labour migration.

The tournament, held at Kinoru Stadium, attracted 64 teams from across the constituency, with 24 teams taking part in the day's matches.

All 64 participating teams received football kits and balls as part of the youth empowerment initiative.

Principal Secretary (PS) for Diaspora Affairs, Roseline Njogu, said sports provide an effective platform for engaging young people on employment opportunities abroad, while sensitizing them on how to pursue such opportunities safely and legally.

Njogu said the tournament was part of the government's three-pronged strategy to address youth unemployment through Kazi kwa Ground, Kazi kwa Mtandao and Kazi Majuu.

"We are taking this opportunity to play football with young people, while having conversations around the government's interventions on unemployment. We are sensitizing them on how to access these opportunities and on safe labour mobility," she said.

Government agencies, including Huduma Centre, the State Department for Diaspora Affairs, the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA), Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET), Micro and Small Enterprises Authority (MSEA) and the Youth Enterprise Development Fund, were also present to provide information and services to the youth.

Njogu, however, cautioned young people seeking employment abroad against falling victim to fraudulent recruitment agents, who exploit job seekers desperate for overseas opportunities.

She urged those seeking jobs abroad to obtain valid passports, acquire relevant skills and work only with licensed recruitment agencies.

"Do not be desperate to the extent of trusting anyone who promises you a job abroad. Confirm the agency, understand the process and ensure you have the necessary documents before travelling," she said.

The PS said genuine recruitment agencies should be transparent about the recruitment process and warned job seekers against individuals demanding bribes or using intimidation to secure overseas employment.

She added that the government is strengthening mechanisms to protect Kenyans working abroad and intervene where citizens faced exploitation or other vulnerabilities.

PS cited the recent repatriation of a Kenyan child, 'Precious', and said the government had facilitated the return of eight children who had been left abroad over the past three years.

She said initiatives such as Kazi Majuu were designed to bring government services and employment information closer to young people, while helping them identify legitimate opportunities and avoid exploitation.

Diaspora PS Roseline Njogu, greeting players before the kick off of a game at Kinoru Stadium. Photo by Dickson Mwiti.

NTSA sets 50 percent target to reduce road deaths by 2028

BY CHARI SUCHE (KNA)

The National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA) has set a target of reducing road fatalities by 50 per cent by 2028.

NTSA Board Chairman Khatib Mwashetani said the authority would address concerns raised by riders, including difficulties accessing driving licenses and NTSA services.

He urged boda boda riders to register through Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOs) under the Boda Boda Management System (BMS), saying the system would enable authorities to obtain accurate data on riders and motorcycles and improve safety interventions.

"Boda boda is a business and it is work," Mwashetani said, noting that the sector provides employment and income for many young people.

Boda Boda Safety Association of Kenya (BAK) Kwale Chairman Mahmud Rajab Mwanyumba said lack of appropriate driving licenses remained a major challenge, with some riders operating without licenses or holding licenses for the wrong category.

He also raised concerns over motorcycle insurance costs and called for affordable and transparent insurance premiums.

Mwanyumba further called for improved relations between riders and police, saying some unlicensed riders avoid reporting accidents for fear of arrest.

"If I do not have a license, does that give you permission to hit me?" he asked, urging authorities to ensure riders can seek justice when involved in crashes.

He called for the installation of speed bumps along dangerous sections of the Ukunda-Diani and Beach roads.

Meanwhile, motorists and boda boda riders in Kwale County called for urgent measures to make roads safer.

Ukunda Boda Boda Chairman Rashid Salim Bora identified the stretch from Ibiza through Blue Jay to Markaz as particularly dangerous due to inadequate speed bumps, road signs and pedestrian crossings.

Base Commander Mwanahamisi Sheria urged riders to avoid speeding, reckless overtaking and overlapping while ensuring they possess valid licenses, insurance, helmets and reflective gear.

She also cautioned tuk-tuk operators against carrying excess passengers, noting that the vehicles are licensed to carry a maximum of three passengers.

NTSA Coast Region Head Douglas Nyagwoka said achieving the 2028 target would require a change in behaviour among all road users.

"Safety starts with me," Nyagwoka said, urging riders, drivers, passengers and pedestrians to play their part in reducing road deaths.

He warned riders against operating motorcycles under the influence of alcohol or drugs and discouraged motorcycle modifications such as loud exhausts, excessive lights and altered indicators.

NBA seeks faster, harmonised GMO approval process

BY WANGARI NDIRANGU (KNA)

The National Biosafety Authority (NBA) has pledged to streamline the approval of genetically modified (GM) products and harmonise regulatory processes to accelerate the adoption of biotechnology as a tool for addressing food insecurity in Kenya.

NBA Board Chairman David Wamatsi said the Authority would work with other government agencies to ensure that approvals are processed concurrently, reducing delays that have slowed the commercialisation of approved biotechnology products.

Speaking in Nairobi during an engagement with principal investigators and Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBCs), Wamatsi said the Authority had identified lengthy regulatory processes and uncertainty after NBA approval as some of the challenges facing researchers and developers.

"We have agreed to harmonise our approval process so that where other government agencies are involved, it runs concurrently," he said.

Wamatsi said the move would ensure that once the NBA approves a product, there are no unnecessary delays arising from subsequent regulatory procedures.

He added that the Authority was also working on amendments to the Biosafety Act to align it with emerging technologies, including genome editing.

The engagement brought together principal investigators involved in biotechnology research and IBCs, which Wamatsi described as the first line of regulatory oversight within research institutions.

He said the committees play a critical role in ensuring that biotechnology research complies with established biosafety requirements before applications are submitted to the NBA.

"Our role is to regulate science and biotechnology to ensure that whatever Kenyans consume is safe for them, animals and the environment,"

Wamatsi identified misinformation, propaganda and rumours surrounding GM technology as a major challenge to the uptake of biotechnology in Kenya.

He urged Kenyans to seek information from credible scientific and regulatory sources, saying biotechnology could contribute to addressing the country's food security challenges when properly regulated.

"This technology is being run by our own sons and daughters. The researchers and scientists are Kenyans," he said, adding that products developed through approved biotechnology processes undergo regulatory scrutiny to ensure their safety.

NBA Chief Executive Officer Dr Ann Karemi said the engagement was the first of its kind to bring together principal investigators and heads of IBCs to openly discuss challenges affecting biotechnology research and regulation.

She said the Authority wanted to strengthen collaboration with researchers and institutions to improve compliance while making regulation more facilitative and efficient.

"We need to talk to each other, not at each other, ultimately for the benefit of the common mwananchi whose major problem is food and safe food," said Karemi.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

GOVERNMENT OF BUNGOMA COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, WATER AND TOURISM

Office of the County Chief Officer
Department of Environment, Tourism and Climate Change

TENDER NOTICE

TENDERS RESERVED FOR BUNGOMA COUNTY RESIDENTS ONLY

NO.	PROJECT NAME	ELIGIBILITY	NEG.NO	BID SECURITY
1	PROVISION OF GARBAGE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION,DISPOSAL AND DUMPSITE MANAGEMENT IN BUNGOMA COUNTY	PWD	2403936-2026/2027	N/A
2	PROVISION OF GARBAGE COLLECTION, TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL IN BUNGOMA MUNICIPALITY	WOMEN	2403937-2026/2027	N/A
3	PROVISION OF GARBAGE COLLECTION,TRANSPORTATION AND DISPOSAL IN KIMILILI MUNICIPALITY	CITIZEN	2403938-2026/2027	Ksh. 500,000.00

Tendering will be conducted under **COUNTY SPECIFIC** Open Tender method(**For BUNGOMA COUNTY TENDERERS ONLY).**Tendering is open to all qualified and interested Tenderers. Qualified and interested tenderers may obtain further information and inspect the Tender Documents at Supply Chain Management Office located behind H.E the Governor 's office County Government of Bungoma for assistance during official working hours. (Monday-Friday 8:00am-5:00Pm).

Interested eligible candidates may download a complete set of tender document with evaluation criteria from the County Government of Bungoma website www.bungoma.go.ke and/or Public Procurement Information Portal: www.tenders.go.ke using the unique IFMIS negotiation number indicated in the tender notice.

Complete tender document must be submitted through the **IFMIS SUPPLIER PORTAL** www.supplier.treasury.go.ke as per the requirement contained in the tender document so as to be received on or before **Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 11:00am Local Time.** Tenders will be opened immediately after the deadline date and time specified above or any deadline date and time specified later.

Tenders will be publicly opened in the presence of the Tenderers' designated representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Bidders who may experience challenges in accessing and uploading their tenders in the IMIS tender portal should contact the IFMIS Helpdesk (email http/ifmis go.ke. Tel: **0800721477/0204801801**) at treasury.

NICHOLAS J.T KIBOI
COUNTY CHIEF OFFICER
DEPARTMENT OF ENEVIRONMENT, TOURISM AND CLIMATE CHANGE

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

WORLD BANK GROUP

Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience

Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources Education, Training & Research

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

CALL FOR INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

HORN OF AFRICA GROUNDWATER FOR RESILIENCE PROJECT (HOAGW4RP)

Introduction

The Government of the Republic of Kenya (GoK), through the Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation (MoWSI), has secured funding from the International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank for the HORN OF AFRICA GROUNDWATER FOR RESILIENCE PROJECT (HoAGW4RP). The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation intends to deploy part of this funding to support Internship Programme for the Financial Year 2026/2027. The Project Development Objective (PDO) of the HoAGW4RP is to enhance accessibility and promote sustainable management of groundwater in the Horn of Africa borderlands. Component 2A of the project focuses on generating groundwater information and strengthening regional and national groundwater institutions. It is under this component that the internship program is offered as one of the capacity building initiatives during the implementation of the project.

Targeted Applicants

The Internship program is targeting young graduates with a bachelor degree certificates and having obtained the said qualification not more than two (2) years before the date of this advertisement. It is envisaged that the internship program will bridge the gap between academic knowledge and real-world work as well as prepare the young graduates for successful careers by immersing them in practical work environments. The internship programme is being coordinated by the Ministry of Water Sanitation and Irrigation (MoWSI) and managed by the Regional Centre on Groundwater Resources (RCGW). The enrolment, remuneration, quarterly monitoring and evaluation of the interns in the program will be done with adherence to the guidelines provided in Part II of the Public Service Internship Act 2023

Work Station

Interns will be deployed to different agencies and counties implementing the HoAGW4R Project, referred to as the workstation where they can apply their academic knowledge and gain valuable insights. The interns will occasionally be engaged in the field assignments particularly during the implementation of the project activities at the 5 counties targeted in the HoAGW4R project.

Eligibility Criteria

The internship program is open to the young graduates in the fields of geology, hydrogeology, environmental science, natural resources management, civil engineering (water option), sociology and gender development studies, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing (RS), ICT and communication, data science, chemistry, hydrometeorology or climate analysis, hydrology economics, finance and other water related engineering courses.

The applicants must:

- Be between 25 and 35 years old
- Have completed and holds a relevant Bachelor's degree from a recognized institution of higher education.
- Have graduated not more than two (2) years earlier than the date of this advertisement.
- Not have benefited in any other internship program funded by the Government of Kenya.
- Not have had any formal employment in their areas of specialization after graduation.

Duties and Responsibilities of the Intern

Interns will:

- Complete tasks assigned by their supervisors /mentors .
- Document the skills acquired during the internship program.
- Participate in mentorship activities and additional program responsibilities.
- Adhere to quarterly monitoring and evaluation requirement in the internship program
- Be ready to be deployed to any relevant office or work station within the institutions implementing the HoAGW4R project where there may be an internship vacancy
- Abide to the rules and regulations of the public institution they have been posted
- Make effort to acquire relevant skills in the area of specialization
- Observe confidentiality of information and security of tools and or equipment that are placed in the possession of the intern in the course of the internship programme
- Ensure clearance by the relevant authority before leaving the internship station

Duration and Stipend

The internship period will last twelve months (12) non-renewable. The second cohort of 65 interns will start in January 2027, the 3rd quarter of 2026/2027 Financial Year. Interns shall be paid a monthly stipend in accordance with the prevailing Guidelines on Management of the Public Service Internship Programme October, 2019, Internship Policy and Guidelines for the Public Service May, 2016 and any other applicable government circulars, policies, or directives issued from time to time. The issuance of certificates to the interns will be done upon successful completion of the internship programme.

An intern shall be liable to have his or her internship discontinued on the grounds of;

a) Gross or disorderly conduct
b) Unsatisfactory performance
c) Commission of a criminal offence

NB: termination of the internship programme

An intern may terminate the contract by:

a) giving a one month's notice or a written letter of resignation/termination of the contract to the Head of the Public Institution through the supervisor, to which the intern has been posted.
b) giving a two weeks' notice before the expiry of the agreed internship period.

How to Apply

Interested candidates should apply by sending the official internship program application form , Cover Letter, copy of ID card, CV, relevant certificates and other supporting documents via email at **hoa@rcgw.go.ke** and capture the subject heading as: ***"APPLICATION FOR THE HoAGW4RP INTERNSHIP 2027".***

Please NOTE: Once selected, candidates will be required to submit proof of a valid Personal Accident Insurance Cover for the internship period, Certificate of Good Conduct, Copies of KRA PIN Certificate, and Bank Account Details.

Deadline for applications

The interested persons should submit their applications on or before **18th September, 2026.** Selection will be based on merits and performance of candidate in the interview.

NOTE: While the internship program will offer an equal opportunity to all graduates, women and persons living with disability are encouraged to apply

KENYA VISION 2030

Village-to-village programme tackles malnutrition in Tharaka Nithi

Community Health Promoters checking the vitals of a child during community health clinic at Ikumbo dispensary in Maara sub county.

BY DICKSON MWITI (KNA)

More than 300 malnourished children in Tharaka Nithi County are benefiting from a village-to-village nutrition programme targeting vulnerable children and their mothers.

The Lishe Mtaani programme, implemented by HopeCore Village International (VHI) in collaboration with the Tharaka Nithi County Government and Vitamin Angels, takes nutrition services closer to families facing challenges accessing health facilities.

The household-based intervention empowers communities to identify, prevent and manage malnutrition while promoting sustainable sources of nutritious food.

According to Lindah Mukami, a clinical nutritionist at VHI, the organisation conducts regular village outreaches where children under five and mothers are screened and supported.

"The clinics mainly involve growth monitoring of children under five years, clinical testing of pregnant and lactating mothers, Vitamin A supplementation and deworming," Ms Mukami said.

She said Vitamin Angels supports the programme with Vitamin A supplements and deworming commodities, while VHI follows up families to ensure children receive proper care and nutrition.

"We follow up the cases and ensure parents and caregivers continue feeding their children on a proper diet. We are getting good results, with more caregivers embracing locally available foods instead of waiting for supplements from donors," she said.

The programme also educates caregivers on balanced diets and the importance of using locally available and affordable foods to improve household nutrition.

The intervention has enabled health workers to move closer to communities, where they examine children, provide supplements and offer practical advice to mothers and caregivers. Children requiring specialised medical attention are referred to health facilities for further assessment and treatment.

The programme also promotes climate-smart kitchen gardens, with more than 400 gardens already established in households across the county.

The gardens enable families to grow vegetables and fruits for household consumption, helping them access diverse and nutritious foods while reducing dependence on purchased produce.

Kenneth Micheni, an officer in the Office of the Director of Health in the Tharaka Nithi County Government, said the county continues to face a significant challenge of stunting, currently estimated at 21 per cent.

Mr Micheni said partnerships with organisations such as VHI were helping the county reach children and mothers who might otherwise miss nutrition services because of distance or lack of transport to health facilities.

"We are glad to move around with HopeCore Village International and other partners where we hold outreaches because not all children are able to come to our health facilities. Some live far while others have no means of getting there," he said.

He said the outreach approach enabled health workers to deliver nutrition services directly to communities while providing caregivers with information on appropriate feeding practices.

Mr Micheni noted that some families have access to nutritious foods but lack knowledge on how to prepare and use them effectively. He cited cases where families sell nutritious foods such as eggs and use the proceeds to buy less nutritious products, saying nutrition education was therefore critical in changing household practices.

"We give health messages to caregivers because we know many people in our community may have the necessary food but they do not know what to do with it. These are important nutritional messages on how to utilise locally available foods," he said.

Nicholas Muriungi of HopeCore Village International said Lishe Mtaani was designed to address malnutrition at household level by involving communities in identifying children at risk and supporting their recovery.

He said Community Health Promoters (CHPs) mobilise households, build trust with families and identify children and pregnant women who may be at risk of malnutrition.

The CHPs conduct screening and assessment using Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) measurements and clinical assessment, with information recorded through the CommCare digital platform.

Children identified as malnourished receive therapeutic foods from HopeCore, while their caregivers are provided with nutrition counselling. The programme also provides education on breastfeeding, complementary feeding, hygiene and childcare practices.

Mr Muriungi said the organisation provides families with seedlings and training to establish climate-smart kitchen gardens, enabling them to produce a variety of nutritious foods throughout the year.

Regular home visits are conducted by CHPs to monitor the progress of children and mothers, provide continued counselling and identify cases requiring additional intervention.

He said recovered mothers and children are eventually recognised as programme graduates and encouraged to become peer mentors, helping other families overcome malnutrition.

Data collected by HopeCore in 2026 in the Muthambi and Mwimbi regions shows that 1,631 people have so far been screened, while 56 children and 12 mothers have been fully discharged from the programme after recovery.

The organisation has also established more than 400 climate-smart kitchen gardens, while 16 Lishe Heroes, who are CHPs trained in nutrition, are supporting the programme across 11 community units.

Mr Muriungi said the approach was intended to create lasting change by combining early identification of malnutrition, treatment, nutrition education, household food production and continuous follow-up.

Reforms rekindle hope for sugarcane farmers in Nandi

Farmers can now deliver their cane and receive their money on time. This has restored confidence in sugarcane farming and encouraged many growers to increase production

BY SAMMY MWIBANDA (KNA)

For years, poor prices and delayed payments made sugarcane farming a gamble for growers in Nandi County. But improved returns, timely payments and better access to weighing facilities are now restoring confidence, with farmers expanding acreage and increasing production.

Farmers say the minimum price of Sh5,500 per tonne, timely payments and increased weighing facilities have made sugarcane farming more attractive and improved their ability to plan and reinvest in their farms.

Sugarcane Farmers Association Chairman Paul Rono said the reforms had restored confidence among growers after years of poor prices, delayed payments and limited access to weighing facilities.

"Farmers are happy because they can now deliver their cane and receive their money on time. This has restored confidence in sugarcane farming and encouraged many growers to increase production," he said.

Rono said timely payments had significantly changed farmers' attitudes towards the crop, enabling them to meet household expenses and reinvest in their farms without prolonged delays.

He added that the growing number of weighbridges had made it easier for farmers to deliver cane without travelling long distances or incurring high transportation costs.

The benefits are also being felt across the sugarcane value chain, with transporters and other workers reporting increased business as production rises.

Sugarcane transporter Musa Kirui said higher production had created more opportunities for truck and tractor operators, loaders and other workers involved in harvesting and transporting cane.

"When farmers are doing well, we also benefit because there is more cane to transport. Increased production means more work for truck and tractor operators, loaders and other workers," he said.

Kirui urged the Government to expand weighing facilities further and improve roads linking farms to collection centres to lower transportation costs and reduce post-harvest losses.

Agronomist Nancy Chepkemboi said improved market conditions provided farmers with an opportunity to increase their earnings by combining better prices with sound agronomic practices.

She said measures including the ban on sugar imports and cancellation of import licences had improved market conditions for the sugar subsector.

Chepkemboi advised farmers to plant recommended cane varieties, maintain proper spacing, control weeds and harvest at the right time to maximise yields.

"Farmers should take advantage of the improved prices by investing in good agronomic practices. Better yields per acre will translate into higher incomes and make sugarcane farming even more attractive," she said.

She also encouraged farmers to regularly consult agricultural extension officers to maintain productive and sustainable farms.

Farmer Willis Fwamba said the reforms had made sugarcane one of the most reliable sources of household income.

"When the price is good and payment is made on time, a farmer can plan properly. I can pay school fees, meet household needs and put some money back into the farm," he said.

Fwamba urged the Government to sustain the reforms and ensure farmers continue receiving fair and predictable prices.

Businessman John Mugo said increased earnings among farmers were boosting economic activity in local trading centres as growers spent their income on household goods and services.

"When farmers receive their money on time, businesses also become active. They buy household goods, pay for services and invest in other enterprises," he said.

Residents called for continued Government oversight to ensure transparency in cane weighing and payment, while Chepkemboi urged investment in rural roads, extension services and other infrastructure to sustain the gains.

Sugarcane being transported to a miller in Nandi County. Ongoing reforms in the sector have made cane farming one of the leading enterprises in the county.

EAC Bill seeks to harmonise medical regulations, boost local supply

BY IAN CHEPKUTO (KNA)

East African Community Medical Products Bill, 2024, when adopted, will fast-track harmonization of the regulation, production, and distribution of medical products across the region.

The proposed Bill, introduced to the EALA Assembly in October 2024, seeks to establish a common framework for regulating medical products in EAC partner states and improve access to essential, safe, quality, and affordable medicines.

Speaking during the General-Purpose Committee of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) public hearing in Nairobi, EALA legislator, David Ole Sankok who is the chair of the Kenya sub-committee, said the proposed legislation would strengthen coordination among national medicines regulators and promote products manufactured within the EAC.

He said harmonised regulatory systems would enable locally manufactured medical products to compete more effectively in regional and international markets, while facilitating their movement across partner States.

"The proposed bill seeks to improve access to essential, safe, quality, and affordable medicines," Sankok said.

He said the Bill proposes measures to promote good manufacturing practices and quality standards, strengthen information sharing among partner states and facilitate mutual recognition of procedures for the registration, evaluation, and inspection of medicines.

"Medicine produced within the Community shall be manufactured in accordance with the compendium of good manufacturing practices approved by a Council," he said.

The legislator said the regulation would strengthen regional cooperation in combating sub-standard and counterfeit medical products while supporting local pharmaceutical manufacturing and regional medical-products value chains.

The Bill is to facilitate access to essential medicines in the Community; to promote medical products manufactured in the Community, to promote good manufacturing practices and quality standards in producing medical products, to promote preference for medical products produced in the Community during public procurement and for related matters.

Government, M-Pesa Foundation partner to equip Kamiti Prison

Correctional Services Principal Secretary (PS), Dr. Salome Beacco (Second Right), shares a handshake with M-Pesa Foundation Executive Director, Karen Basiye, as Commissioner General of Prisons Patrick Aranduh (Far Right), looks on during launch of the new tuition block at the Kamiti Medium Security Prison

BY MICHAEL OMONDI (KNA)

The Kamiti Medium Security Prison has become the latest correctional facility to benefit from the construction of a new tuition block which will provide inmates with a platform to undertake academic instruction and literacy programmes.

The project, courtesy of the M-Pesa Foundation, is part of a broader reform agenda aimed at empowering reformed offenders, particularly after expiry of their sentences.

The classroom block comprises a staffroom, an ICT lab and an ablution block that create a better environment for inmates to pursue education and skills development.

Speaking during the launch, Correctional Services Principal Secretary (PS), Dr. Salome Beacco, pointed out that the facility will help equip offenders with critical skills to aid their reintegration into society.

She said the fully equipped tuition block will go a long way in advancing formal and vocational training within correctional settings, adding that it will ensure those who benefit from the facility are wholly rehabilitated and reformed.

According to the PS, the Department has undertaken a host of reforms aimed at expanding both formal education and training programmes.

"These include registering prison facilities as public learning centres and establishing digital and science laboratories, to help inmates gain valid academic certificates and successfully reintegrate into society," Dr. Beacco outlined.

Appreciating the donation by the M-Pesa Foundation, Commissioner General of Prisons Patrick Aranduh noted that it is important to equip inmates with skills and knowledge that would support their reintegration into society to reduce recidivism.

M-Pesa Foundation Executive Director, Karen Basiye, pledged her organisation's commitment to supporting the State Department in its endeavour.

She announced that the Foundation will explore the possibility of further collaboration in areas including health, education, economic empowerment and environmental conservation.

"The options include the possibility of establishing a TVET model workshop in one of the country's correctional facilities," Basiye said.

The initiative seeks to strengthen rehabilitation and prepare offenders for successful reintegration into society after serving their jail terms.

InterAsia launches weekly shipping service to Mombasa

BY HUSSEIN ABDULLAHI (KNA)

1. **KPA CEO Capt. William Ruto with InterAsia Lines' East Africa and Mozambique Area Representative, Eric Chen when the latter called on him at KPA headquarters in Mombasa. The giant shipping line has launched a new weekly service at the Port of Mombasa, strengthening maritime connectivity between Asia and the East Africa region.**
2. **Ships docked at the port of Mombasa. The Port of Mombasa is the premier maritime gateway to East and Central Africa serving as a critical maritime trade lifeline that connects over 80 global ports to a vast landlocked hinterland.**

InterAsia Lines, a Taiwan based shipping line, has launched a new weekly service at the Port of Mombasa, strengthening maritime connectivity between Asia and the East African region.

The new service will operate a weekly vessel with capacity of between 2,000 and 2,500 Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) in partnership with South Korea's Hyundai Merchant Marine (HMM), Singapore's Pacific International Lines (PIL) and China's COSCO Shipping Corporation Limited.

The East African region continues to witness the remarkable transformation of the shipping and maritime industry driven by Kenya Ports Authority (KPA).

The announcement comes at a time when a total of 57 vessels are expected to dock at the seaports of Mombasa and Lamu over the next two weeks.

According to the 14-day vessel schedule, the Port of Mombasa is expected to handle 27 container ships, 16 conventional vessels, four oil tankers and five car carriers while the Lamu port is scheduled to receive five container vessels during the same period.

Lamu Port features a natural depth of 17 to 17.5 meters along its main channel (and up to 60 meters within the bay), making it the deepest seaport in East Africa and capable of handling mega post-Panamax vessels that cannot dock in Mombasa.

KPA Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Capt. William Ruto welcomed the new service and appreciated InterAsia Lines for its continued cooperation and confidence in the Port of Mombasa noting that it comes at a time KPA is repositioning the premier port facility for greater efficiency, investment and economic growth.

"Through strategic partnership with global shipping giants such as InterAsia and others we are strengthening and consolidating our position on the international stage and opening new opportunities for maritime trade in Kenya and beyond," he said.

He said repositioning the ports for greater efficiency involves comprehensive infrastructure renewal, digital automation of terminal and gate processes, and streamlining landside logistics.

The Port of Mombasa is the premier maritime gateway to East and Central Africa, serving as a critical maritime trade lifeline that connects over 80 global ports to a vast landlocked hinterland.

The port links international shipping lines to millions of people and acts as the starting point of the Northern Corridor that links Kenya's coast to Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and South Sudan.

InterAsia Lines' East Africa and Mozambique Area Representative, Eric Chen, made the announcement during a courtesy call on Captain Ruto.

The delegation included Inchcape Shipping Services East Africa Cluster Manager Benance Sebastian, East Africa Port Captain Bwanaheri Lali, Port Operations Manager Lydia Muchoki and Liner Manager Johana Macharia.

They commended the remarkable progress achieved at the Port of Mombasa and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to learn about the port's operations and its growing role as a key gateway to the East and Central African region.

Eric Chen attributed the new service to rising demand for shipping between Asia and East Africa, driven by increased trade volumes along the Asia-Africa route.

He said the move by InterAsia which has a massive footprint across the Asian continent offers Kenyan importers and exporters more reliable and frequent access to global shipping routes and markets.

Malaba OSBP generates Sh11bn in revenue

BY MOSES WEKESA(KNA)

The Malaba One Stop Border Post (OSBP) generated over Sh11 billion in the last financial year.

The OSBP surpassed its target of Sh10,619,791,008.54 during the period, achieving 104 per cent of the target.

The border post has recorded a steady increase in revenue generation from Sh1,485,508,679 in the 2014/2015 financial year to Sh11.04 billion in 2025/2026, representing a 643.5 per cent increase over the 12-year period under review.

The Malaba OSBP Station Manager, Roderick Mulei, attributed the growth in revenue generation to increased trade volumes, improved cargo turnaround time and enhanced customer experience through stakeholder engagement, among other factors.

Mulei spoke at the border during an inspection by the National Assembly Regional Integration Committee, led by its Chairperson Irene Mayaka, as part of a fact-finding mission.

He said the Malaba OSBP handles an average of 2,200 trucks daily, with about 600 entering Kenya and 1,600 crossing into Uganda, while an average of 1,000 people cross the border each day.

"We have made various strides, including installation of solar power, installation of a drive-through scanner, rehabilitation of the borehole to ensure a consistent water supply and completion of the service centre to accommodate Participating Government Agencies (PGAs)," he told the committee.

Mulei, however, called on the government to complete the road loop connecting to Uganda, improve the parking yard and expand the exit at the bridge to ensure a smooth flow of traffic.

Youth urged to lead labour solidarity in food production

Youth participate in a training programme at Mulo Cooperative Society in Awendo Sub-County organised by the Kenya Peasants League. Photo by Makokha Khaoya/KNA.

BY MAKOKHA KHAOYA(KNA)

Youth have been urged to take a leading role in food production, environmental conservation and community development through organised farm labour solidarity and food cooperatives.

Speaking during a youth training programme at Mulo Cooperative Society in Awendo Sub-County, the General Coordinator of the Kenya Peasants League (KPS), David Otieno, said the Farm Labour Solidarity Building Programme will help young people come together within food cooperatives to support farmers with labour.

Otieno said the Kenya Peasants League also helps the food production industry identify and respond to challenges affecting households and communities.

The Farm Labour Solidarity Building Programme brings together youth from different counties.

Participants organise themselves to visit farms and provide labour support to farmers.

The organisers said the initiative seeks to address the growing trend of young people leaving rural areas in search of urban employment, leaving older members of the community to undertake farming activities.

Otieno said the programme would also ensure that youths participate in food cooperative markets, where they work as sales agents, collect orders, package and distribute food, and engage in businesses that provide them with income-generating opportunities.

A key component of the programme is the establishment of agroecology schools within food cooperatives and clusters.

The schools bring together young men and women to learn about sustainable agriculture, indigenous seeds, environmental protection and community development.

The programme also includes senior schools that focus on women's rights and sexual and reproductive rights, while encouraging young men to grow into responsible members of society.

Otieno emphasised the importance of involving young people in household and community decision-making, arguing that equality and cooperation between parents and children are essential for building stronger families and communities.

The programme brought together more than 100 youths from Migori and other parts of the country, linking them to a network of more than 67 food cooperatives.

Patrick Otieno Oduor, a youth leader from Ndere Ligega Youth Food Cooperative in Siaya County, said the training had exposed participants to digital platforms and technology that could help strengthen food cooperatives and improve communication, marketing and access to information.

Kenya calls for action to build self-reliant African health sector

BY WINNIE KOBILO (PCO)

Kenya has called for the translation of Africa's health agenda into concrete investments, measurable results and systems that reduce the continent's dependence on external support.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale made the call during the plenary session of the 76th WHO Regional Committee for Africa, where member states discussed the regional strategy, A New Era of Health for Africa: United Action for Vision 2035.

The strategy was presented by WHO Regional Director for Africa Dr. Mohamed Yakub Janabi at a session chaired by Ethiopia's Minister for Health, Dr. Mekdes Daba.

Kenya expressed its full support for the vision, noting that it aligns with ongoing reforms to build a resilient, accessible and sustainable health system.

CS Duale said Africa's pursuit of health self-reliance must move beyond declarations and be anchored on three priorities: sustainable health financing, local manufacturing and digital transformation.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale speaking during the plenary session of the 76th WHO Regional Committee for Africa. Photo courtesy.

On health financing, he called for stronger domestic resource mobilisation and increased fiscal commitment to health, noting that African health systems cannot continue relying heavily on external financing.

He highlighted Kenya's Taifa Care programme under the Social Health Authority, which has enrolled more than 32 million people and strengthened domestic financing for primary healthcare.

The Cabinet Secretary urged the WHO Regional Office for Africa to support countries in developing stronger health investment cases and convene joint engagements between Health and Finance Ministers to secure sustainable domestic financing.

On local manufacturing, Duale highlighted Kenya's ratification of the treaty establishing the African Medicines Agency and urged other Member States to expedite ratification.

He said a strong continental regulatory framework, pooled procurement and joint regulatory approvals would create predictable demand and expand opportunities for African manufacturers.

"Health product sovereignty will ultimately be built through procurement and sustained demand, not declarations alone," he said.

Duale outlined Kenya's progress in digital health, including the development of an integrated national architecture connecting health facilities, claims management and national health registries.

Digital systems are also supporting the delivery of services at the community level through more than 107,000 Community Health Promoters.

Kenya further supported the establishment of a regional health data hub founded on interoperable standards, strong data governance and systems owned and trusted by member states.

This approach will help protect African sovereignty over the continent's health data, the CS said.

The Cabinet Secretary reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to working with the WHO Regional Director and member states to implement the regional strategy and build a resilient, sustainable and self-reliant African health sector.

Chesinende ESP modern market nears completion

BY KIBE MBURU (PCO)

The National Government's Chesinende Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) Modern Market in Kipkelion East Sub County, Kericho County, has reached 90 per cent completion.

The facility is expected to improve trading conditions and boost economic activity for about 5,000 people in the area.

The modern market has facilities including a hotel, ICT room, pre-feeding centre, cold storage facility and a borehole.

The borehole, which is almost complete, is expected to provide clean water to traders and neighbouring communities.

According to Kipkelion East Sub-County Deputy County Commissioner, Mohamoud Ibrahim Hassan, the project will provide traders with a safer and more organised trading environment while improving access to markets for agricultural produce and creating opportunities for young people.

Hassan said the ICT room will enable young people to access information and services, while the cold storage facility would help traders preserve fresh and perishable produce adding that landscaping works are currently ongoing as the project nears completion.

"More than 200 traders will have an opportunity to secure stalls in the modern market, where they will be protected from rain, sun and strong winds, while their products will be better protected and customers will have a more comfortable environment to shop," Hassan said.

The chairman of Chesinende Farmers' Cooperative Society, Joseph Choge, said the modern market would provide better trading conditions, particularly for women who had struggled to operate their businesses in difficult environments.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THE NATIONAL TREASURY

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC INVESTMENTS AND ASSETS MANAGEMENT

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE

THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2027/28–2029/30 MEDIUM TERM BUDGET

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has initiated the process of developing of the FY 2027/28–2029/30 Medium-Term Budget. The process is anchored in Article 201 of the Constitution and Section 35(2) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012, which reiterate the need for openness, accountability and public participation in financial decision-making.

The State Department for Public Investments and Assets Management, in collaboration with key stakeholders, has developed the draft budget requirements for the State Department for FY 2027/28–2029/30 Medium-Term Budget.

The priorities identified are aligned to the State Department's mandate of enhancing the effective management of public investments, government assets, public enterprises, pensions and retirement benefits, and mobilization of private capital through Public Private Partnerships. The State Department's programmes include:

1. **Public Investment and Portfolio Management;**
2. **Public Pensions and Retirement Benefit Management;**
3. **Government Assets Management; and**
4. **General Administration, Planning and Support Services.**

The key expected outputs and proposed budget allocations are contained in the Sub-Sector report for the State Department for Public Investments and Assets Management for Financial Years 2027/28–2029/30, which is available through the website of The State Department. **(www.publicinvestment.go.ke)**

The Principal Secretary, State Department for Public Investments and Assets Management, is calling for public views on the budget proposals from members of the general public and any concerned stakeholder. Your views/inputs may be submitted through the official email address: **info@publicinvestement.go.ke**

The same may also be submitted in an envelope marked:

"Public Participation on FY 2027/28–2029/30 Medium-Term Budget – SDPIAM"

addressed to:

The Principal Secretary
State Department for Public Investments and Assets Management
The National Treasury
P.O. Box 30007–00100
Nairobi, Kenya

All views should reach the Principal Secretary not later than **14th September 2026**.

CYRELL WAGUNDA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTRY

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FORESTRY

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE:

FINANCIAL YEAR 2027/28-2029/30 MEDIUM TERM BUDGET

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has initiated the process of development of FY 2027/28-2029/30 medium-term budget. The process is anchored in Article 201 of the Constitution and Section 35(2) of the Public Finance Management Act (Cap. 412A), which reiterates the need for openness, accountability and public participation in financial decision-making.

The State Department for Forestry in collaboration with key stakeholders, has developed the draft budget requirements for the Forestry sector for FY 2027/28-2029/30 Medium-Term Budget. The priorities identified fall under three (3) key programmes namely: Forestry Development, Management and Conservation, Agroforestry and Commercial Forestry Development and General Administration, Planning and Support Services.

The key expected outputs and proposed budget allocations are contained in the Programme Based Budget (PBB) report for the Forestry sub-sector for Financial Years 2027/28- 2029/30 which is available at the website of the Ministry of Environment Climate Change and Forestry **(www.forestry.go.ke)**.

The Principal Secretary for the State Department for Forestry is calling for public views on the budget proposals from members of the general public and any concerned stakeholder. Your views/memoranda may be sent to the official email address: **budget.public@forestry.go.ke**. The same may also be sent in an envelope marked **"Public Participation on 2027/2028-2029/30 Medium-Term Budget SDF"** addressed to:

The Principal Secretary
State Department for Forestry
NHIF Building, Ragati Road, 12th Floor
P.O Box 30126-00100
Nairobi, Kenya

All views should reach the Principal Secretary not later than **16th September 2026**

Principal Secretary
State Department for Forestry

KENYA VISION 2030

CAF, AFCON 2027 hosts assess tournament readiness

BY WINNIE KOBILO (PCO)

Kenya has reaffirmed its readiness to host the TotalEnergies Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) 2027.

This is as preparations for the continental tournament gather momentum.

The PAMOJA AFCON 2027 is expected to position East Africa as a tourist destination and an investment hub.

The tournament is also expected to strengthen regional integration and boost sporting and economic infrastructure that will continue benefiting communities beyond 2027.

Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports Salim Mvurya joined his Uganda and Tanzania counterparts during a high-level meeting of the PAMOJA Oversight Council with the Confederation of African Football (CAF) to review the collective preparedness of the three host nations

The meeting also focused on aligning the nations to the next phase of preparations and delivery ahead of the tournament including discussions on the proposed visa framework and cross-border mobility arrangements for the tournament.

Chaired by CAF Acting General Secretary Samson Adamu, the meeting also brought together CAF officials, presidents of the respective CAF member associations, chairpersons and chief executive officers of local organising committees (LOCs), principal secretaries and other senior government officials.

CS Mvurya assured CAF of Kenyan government's, alongside Tanzania and Uganda governments, of commitment to advancing and operationalising the proposed framework.

Each host nation has assessed requirements within its jurisdiction and committed to undertaking the necessary measures towards implementation.

The framework is intended to facilitate seamless movement of fans, participating teams, officials, accredited media, sponsors, suppliers and other tournament stakeholders across Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania.

It will also provide appropriate immigration and customs facilitation for the movement of tournament-related goods and equipment.

For Kenya, the framework complements the country's efforts to facilitate easier entry and movement for African visitors while strengthening regional mobility ahead of the 2027 tournament.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

NATIONAL BIOSAFETY AUTHORITY KENYA

NATIONAL BIOSAFETY AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO TENDER

The National Biosafety Authority (NBA) is a State Corporation in Kenya established pursuant to the Biosafety Act CAP 320 with a mandate to exercise general supervision and control over the transfer, handling, and use of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) with a view to ensuring the safety of human and animal health and to provide an adequate level of protection for the environment.

The Authority invites tenders invites interested and eligible bidders/tenderers to bid for the tenders listed below in the Electronic Government Procurement System- eGP:

S/N	TENDER NUMBER	TENDER DESCRIPTION	CATEGORY	TENDER SECURITY (KES)	CLOSING / OPENING DATE
1.	NBA/753/0001/2026-27	PROVISION OF MEDICAL INSURANCE COVER FOR STAFF AND BOARD MEMBERS - UNDERWRITERS ONLY	OPEN NATIONAL TENDER	326,000	15/09/2026 AT 11:00 AM
2.	NBA/753/RFP/0003/2026-27	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR RESOURCE MOBILIZATION - INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANTS ONLY	EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)	N/A	15/09/2026 AT 11:00 AM

Tenders are open to all eligible tenderers who must be dully registered on eGP. Qualified and interested tenderers are requested to view and download a complete set of the tender documents from the website **https://egpkenya.go.ke free of charge**. All enquiries and clarification for should be sent via the website **https://egpkenya.go.ke** and completed tender should be submitted electronically via the same website.

Tenders will be opened immediately after the deadline date and time specified in the tender document. The tenders will be opened electronically, in the presence of all bidders who wish to attend the virtual tender opening.

Chief Executive Officer
National Biosafety Authority
NACOSTI Building,
Loresho, Off Waiyaki Way
P. O. Box 28251 – 00100, Nairobi
Tel: +254 202678667
Email: ceo@biosafetykenya.go.ke
Website: www.biosafetykenya.go.ke

KENYA VISION 2030

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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kasneb

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Tel (020) 4923000 Cellphone: 0722-201214,
Email: info@kasneb.or.ke. Website: www.kasneb.or.ke,
Facebook: KASNEB **X:**@KASNEBOfficial

EXAMINATIONS NOTICE - DECEMBER 2026 EXAMINATIONS

Students of KASNEB, parents, sponsors, guardians, training institutions and other stakeholders are hereby notified that the December 2026 examinations will be administered over a period of **four (4) days**, from **Monday, 30 November 2026** to **Thursday, 3 December 2026**. The specific dates and other additional information are availed below:

1. **EXAMINATION DATES**

The examination dates for December 2026 examinations are as follows:

(a) **Monday, 30 November 2026 to Thursday, 3 December 2026**

(i) Certificate in Accounting and Management Skills (CAMS)
(ii) Accounting Technicians Diploma (ATD)
(iii) Diploma in Data Management and Analytics (DDMA)
(iv) Diploma in Computer Networks and Systems Administration (DCNSA)
(v) Diploma in Quality Management (DQM)
(vi) Certified Public Accountants (CPA)
(vii) Certified Secretaries (CS)
(viii) Certified Investment and Financial Analysts (CIFA)
(ix) Certified Credit Professionals (CCP)
(x) Certified Information Systems Solutions Expert (CISSE)
(xi) Certified Forensic Fraud Examiner (CFFE)
(xii) Certified Public Finance Manager (CPFM)
(xiii) Certified Quality Professional (CQP)
(xiv) Certified Procurement and Supply Professional of Kenya (CPSP-K)
(xv) Associate in Procurement and Supply of Kenya (APS-K)
(xvi) Business Data Analytics Practical Paper (CPA) and Financial Modelling and Data Analytics Practical Paper (CIFA)

(b) **Tuesday, 1 December 2026 and Thursday, 3 December 2026**

Foreign Accountancy Qualifications (FAQ)

Note: Candidates are advised to make early arrangements, including seeking permission from employers where applicable, to ensure that they sit for the examinations.

2. **CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION AND EXAMINATION ENTRY**

The closing date for registration and examination entry for the **December 2026** examinations will be **Friday, 30 October 2026.**

3. **QUALIFICATIONS BROCHURE**

The qualifications brochure can be downloaded from the KASNEB website www.kasneb.or.ke or obtained from the following sources **free of charge**:

(a) The offices of KASNEB.
(b) KASNEB counters at Huduma Centres in Nairobi GPO, Kisumu, Kisii, Eldoret, Nyeri, Mombasa, Nakuru, Kitale, Kakamega, Meru and Thika.
(c) Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) branches countrywide.
(d) Training institutions offering KASNEB courses.

4. **METHODS OF PAYMENT OF FEES**

(a) **Payment through student portal**

Students are advised to use student portal link **https://online.kasneb.or.ke**. A detailed guide regarding this mode of payment is available within the student portal.

(b) **Payment by students based outside Kenya**

Foreign based students should pay through KCB Dollar Account No.1123096465.

Note:
Students are advised to utilise the above payment channels. Please note that NO payment shall be made through any member of staff or agent of KASNEB. Cash payments will NOT be accepted at KASNEB offices. Students based outside Kenya/ Foreign students are advised to pay the applicable fees in US dollars.

5. All continuing students of KASNEB are required to renew their annual registration by 1 July of each year. New students are advised to note that the annual registration renewal fee is due on the 1 July following the first eligible examination sitting and annually thereafter.

SECRETARY/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Tuesday, 1 September 2026

be empowered

PS Ng'eno calls for preparedness ahead of El Niño rains

BY ANITA OMWENGA (MYGOV)

Principal Secretary, State Department for Environment and Climate Change, Dr. Festus Ng'eno, has called for stronger collaboration and early action to ensure that climate information is translated into practical interventions that protect lives, livelihoods and the economy.

Speaking during the closing of the 13th National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF13) in Nairobi, Ng'eno emphasised that climate forecasts must go beyond providing information and instead guide timely decisions and preparedness across all sectors.

The three-day forum brought together scientists, policymakers, development partners, the private sector, county governments and other stakeholders.

The need for enhanced collaboration was emphasised, with experts noting that effective climate action requires stronger mechanisms that connect forecasts to decisions, decisions to action, and action to impact.

As Kenya anticipates heavier October-November-December (OND) 2026 rainfall season, the PS said the rains present both opportunities and risks.

"We must move from climate information to early action," Ng'eno said, noting that favourable rainfall could enhance agricultural production, improve water availability, support pasture regeneration and contribute to the recharge of water resources.

He underscored the importance of preparedness, drawing lessons from previous extreme weather events, including El Niño, and stressing that acting before disasters occur is more effective and less costly than responding after impacts have already been felt.

The PS called for climate information to be translated into practical, sector-specific action, noting that climate variability should not only be viewed through the lens of risk but also as an opportunity to maximise gains.

Principal Secretary, State Department for Environment and Climate Change, Dr. Festus Ng'eno speaking during the closing of the 13th National Climate Outlook Forum (NCOF13) in Nairobi.

He observed that farmers require timely information to guide planting, crop management and harvesting, while pastoralists need climate information to support decisions on water, pasture and livestock management.

Fishing communities, he added, require timely updates on weather and lake conditions, while urban areas must strengthen preparedness for flooding, drainage challenges and other weather-related risks.

He reaffirmed the Government's commitment, through the State Department for Environment and Climate Change and the Kenya Meteorological Department, to strengthening climate services, early warning systems and climate action for the benefit of all Kenyans.

The Director of the Kenya Meteorological Service Authority (KMSA), Edward Muriuki, emphasised that the success of the OND 2026 forecast will ultimately depend not only on its accuracy but also on how effectively it informs early action and timely decisions before impacts occur.

"Climate information must be understandable, relevant and actionable," he said, adding that preparedness must be strengthened under evolving El Niño conditions.

However, he noted that El Niño does not automatically mean heavy rainfall everywhere and that other atmospheric and oceanic factors must continue to be monitored.

Muriuki said the OND season forecast indicates enhanced rainfall in Kenya, with high temperatures expected in the coastal region.

"Expect enhanced rainfall in most parts of Kenya during the October to December 2026 short rains season," he said.

According to the climate outlook for the October-December 2026 short rains season, above-average rainfall is expected over 80 per cent of the country.

Mean temperatures are predicted to be warmer than average during the season, with higher probabilities over Kwale, Mombasa, Kilifi, Lamu and parts of Tana River, Taita/Taveta and Garissa counties.

Sh16 billion Taifa Gas LPG Project in Mombasa on course

The Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) is a 3,000-acre flagship industrial and logistics hub in Mombasa County, managed by the Special Economic Zones Authority and the Kenya Ports Authority and aims to transform Kenya into a regional manufacturing and trans-shipment leader.

BY HUSSEIN ABDULLAHI (KNA)

The construction of the Sh16-billion Taifa Gas Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) terminal at the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Mombasa is progressing steadily.

The Taifa Gas storage plant, set to be East Africa's largest, is nearing completion with the new facility aiming to break a long-standing market monopoly, lower cooking gas prices, and turn Mombasa into a major East African LPG hub.

President William Ruto presided over the ground-breaking ceremony for the Taifa Gas Liquefied Petroleum Gas Terminal on February 24, 2023.

The entry of Taifa Gas, in Dongo Kundu, near the Port of Mombasa, is part of a trade deal between Kenya and Tanzania.

The plant will mark the first major investment in the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone and is expected to generate at least 120 jobs in its first stage as the country accelerates efforts to expand gas infrastructure.

A general view of the Taifa Gas LPG Terminal at the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone in Mombasa. The massive energy project is nearing completion.

The Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) is a 3,000-acre flagship industrial and logistics hub in Mombasa County, managed by the Special Economic Zones Authority and the Kenya Ports Authority and aims to transform Kenya into a regional manufacturing and trans-shipment leader.

The Taifa Gas project is far more than another pipeline and represents one of the foundations upon which the country's gas initiative is being built.

Observers contend the new State-of-the-Art gas terminal will strengthen Kenya's LPG supply chain through efficient bulk importation, storage and distribution to markets across the country and beyond.

Taifa Gas Project Mechanical Engineer Moses Ochieng said the project aligns with the government's economic development blueprints and clean energy goals by scaling up regional cooking gas availability and driving down household energy costs.

He said the terminal is slated for commissioning in October 2026 and will be receiving bulk liquefied petroleum gas directly from berth number three at the Kipevu Oil Terminal (KOT) via a dedicated 3.5-kilometer pipeline network.

"The project features an 18-inch, 3.5-kilometer pipeline connecting the Kipevu Oil Terminal to the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone and the pipeline comprises roughly two kilometers of subsea infrastructure and 1.5 kilometers on land to transport liquefied petroleum gas," he said.

He said engineering designs, pipeline infrastructure, topside facilities, sea crossings, mechanical installations and other critical energy projects that support both upstream and downstream operations are under development.

Nakuru embarks on Sh3.8 billion sponge city flood solution

BY ESTHER MWANGI AND JEFTHER AFUYO (KNA)

The County Government of Nakuru is implementing a Sh3.8 billion project to minimize the frequency and severity of floods.

The project, which has embraced the "sponge city" concept also aims at improving water quality within the county.

The county government is partnering with Netherlands under the Water as Leverage (WaL) program, the UN-Habitat, the Netherlands Enterprise Agency (RVO) and Vitens Evides International (VEI) in the project that also aims at making the city withstand variable temperatures, drought and heavy rainfall.

County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Water, Environment, Energy, Climate Change, and Natural Resources Dr Nelson Maara said the initiative will address the devastating effects of flooding.

She stated that flooding in Nakuru is occasioned by a ballooning population, haphazard urbanization, uncontrolled land-filling, disorganized disposal of waste, and encroachment of lakes, canals, and rivers.

During a meeting with a delegation from VEI (Dutch Water Operators) the Wageningen University of Netherlands (WUR) and international consortium of partners, Dr Maara explained that a sponge city is one that is built to passively absorb, clean, and use rainfall in an environmentally friendly manner, reducing polluting and hazardous run-off.

Sponge cities rely on natural resources such as lakes, rivers, grass, and soil to create absorbent ground surfaces that allow rainwater to be stored.

He stated that the approach also comprises permeable roadways, rooftop gardens, rainwater harvesting, rain gardens, green spaces, and blue spaces such as ponds, rivers and lakes.

Nakuru's sponge city program, the official explained, aims to use porous pavements, rain gardens, green roofs, urban wetlands, and other innovations to absorb water during storms.

The soil is said to purify the water and gradually releases it - much like a sponge.

Dr. Maara commended the partnership between the County Government, VEI and WUR university which he said will promote sustainable urban water management, climate resilience initiatives and regenerative programs such as water as Leverage (WAL).

PCF payout to policyholders hits Sh444 million

BY PATRICK NYAKUNDI

The Policyholders Compensation Fund (PCF) has paid out Sh444,300,892 in claims to 2,371 policyholders of insurance companies placed under statutory management or whose licenses have been cancelled since the fund began operations.

PCF Deputy Director for Corporate Communications Rosemary Kavili said the compensation was aimed at protecting policyholders, promoting financial stability and strengthening public confidence in Kenya's insurance industry.

Kavili made the disclosure during a media sensitisation engagement forum held at Wote Technical Training Institute (WTTI) in Makueni Sub-County.

She said the figures represented compensation made as of June 30, 2026, to policyholders affected by the collapse or closure of insurance companies.

Among the insurers whose policyholders have received compensation are Concord Insurance Company, with 45 claimants paid Sh9.02 million; Standard Assurance, 21 claimants paid Sh4.6 million; Resolution Company Ltd, 767 claimants paid Sh90.86 million; BlueShield Insurance, 256 claimants paid Sh46.01 million; and United Insurance, seven claimants paid Sh1.02 million.

Other beneficiaries include 658 claimants from Xplico Insurance who received Sh147 million, 484 claimants from Invesco Assurance who received Sh109.6 million, 62 claimants from Trident Insurance who received Sh22.1 million and 71 claimants from Corporate Insurance Company Ltd who received Sh12.39 million.

Claimants received up to a maximum of Sh500,000.

Kavili said the PCF had launched a public awareness campaign in Makueni County under the banner "PCFMtaani".

Makueni is the 16th County in which the sensitization exercise has been carried out.

The campaign brings together journalists, boda boda riders, matatu operators, insurance agents, deputy county commissioners, chiefs and members of the Kenya National Union of Teachers, among other stakeholders.

Government empowers women groups in Homa Bay County

With proper management, chicken farming can become one of the most profitable and sustainable ventures for smallholders in Homa Bay.

BY DAVIS LANGAT (KNA)

Over 80 women groups in Homa Bay County have benefited from a training rolled out by the State Department for Livestock Development.

The program encompassed training on modern livestock production practices as well as financial literacy targeting women to boost sustainable livelihoods.

The women groups are among 2,300 groups identified from all the 47 counties to benefit from the programme.

As part of the program, First Lady Rachel Ruto presided over distribution of 2,300 day-old improved "kienyeji" chicks at Oriwo Boys Senior School in Karachuonyo.

Mrs Ruto said the exercise marked an important step in transforming the livestock sector and enhancing food security and incomes for households.

She said her office collaborated with the State Department for Livestock Development to train women groups in all the 47 counties on best practices in livestock production.

She said their objective was to ensure vulnerable groups were economically empowered.

"The main goal is not only to train women on how to tend chicken but to equip them with skills to build viable and sustainable enterprises," she said.

First Lady Rachel Ruto (second right) handing over chicks to women groups. (Photo by Davis Langat)

The First Lady said women should engage in agriculture as a commercial enterprise to create wealth for future generations as opposed to subsistence production only.

Governor Gladys Wanga lauded the initiative, saying it enhances financial inclusion, enterprise development and food security, and is part of the government's agenda to improve women's welfare.

Principal Livestock Production Officer Fred Oruru said production of improved "kienyeji" chicken had uplifted over 3.6 million households through women and youth initiatives.

He said the birds combine hardiness of local breeds with faster growth, better egg production and disease resistance.

The birds lay 200-280 eggs per year compared to 45 for indigenous birds and attain two to 2.5 kilograms in 3.5 months versus one to 1.5 kilograms in eight months for local birds.

He said the State Department will continue providing training, extension support and market linkages.

"With proper management, chicken farming can become one of the most profitable and sustainable ventures for smallholders in Homa Bay. The handover is not an end in itself but part of a continuous programme to transform the poultry industry nationally," Oruru said.

KALRO research targets more and better beef

BY WANGARI NDIRANGU (KNA)

Kenya is intensifying livestock research to produce better beef, raise farmers' incomes and narrow the country's meat deficit through improved cattle breeds, affordable feeds and climate-resilient pastures that can withstand changing weather conditions.

At the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) Beef Research Institute in Lanet, Nakuru County, scientists are combining animal breeding, nutrition and pasture development to help farmers rear heavier cattle, improve meat quality and reduce production costs.

Animal breeding and genetics researcher Catherine Ndungu said the Improved Boran is among the breeds showing strong potential for Kenya's beef industry, particularly in arid and semi-arid regions.

"The Improved Boran is well adapted to our local environment and can efficiently convert available resources into meat," she said.

Catherine Ndungu, a research scientist in animal breeding and genetics at the institute, says the Improved Boran is one of the breeds with strong potential to drive beef production, particularly in Kenya's arid and semi-arid areas.

Ndungu explained that the breed is heat tolerant, withstands harsh conditions and can travel long distances in search of pasture and water. Bulls can weigh up to 900 kilogrammes while females attain between 450 and 500 kilogrammes, with a dressing percentage of about 55 to 60 per cent.

She said KALRO is improving traits such as body weight, feed conversion efficiency, adaptability and disease tolerance while also exploring crossbreeding programmes, including the Improved Boran and Orma Boran, to combine superior growth with resistance to diseases such as trypanosomiasis.

"For farmers seeking breeding animals, selecting the right breed for the production environment is more important than size alone," Ndungu said, advising farmers to consider body structure, sound legs, broad hindquarters and reproductive potential.

But good genetics must be matched with quality nutrition.

Animal technologist Lorna Chesire said the institute is developing locally formulated feed rations for feedlot cattle to improve weight gain, muscle development and meat quality before market.

Researchers analyse feed ingredients to ensure the right balance of energy and protein, using formulations containing maize germ, Rhodes grass, wheat bran, canola, sunflower concentrates and mineral supplements.

KALRO is also evaluating locally available protein sources such as acacia and prosopis pods and leaves as affordable alternatives that could lower feeding costs for farmers.

Plant breeder Mercy Jerop said pasture research remains central to sustainable livestock production as climate change increasingly threatens fodder availability.

Among the pasture varieties promoted are Bana grass, Omega-1 Napier and locally adapted Brachiaria varieties BS1 and KS1, which mature within three to four months and perform well in medium and dry areas.

Jerop said Brachiaria can be used for grazing, silage and feed blocks, while Boma Rhodes is suitable for hay production in medium and high-altitude regions. Farmers are also being encouraged to adopt forage sweet potato varieties with higher protein content to supplement livestock diets.

"We first ask farmers where they come from so that we can recommend pasture varieties suited to their area," she said.

Meanwhile, meat trader John Njoroge of Jamu Meat Centre in Lanet said demand for quality beef remains high among households, schools and hospitals.

He said sourcing well-finished cattle from KALRO had enabled his business to consistently supply between 100 and 200 kilogrammes of beef daily during periods of high demand.

Njoroge said consumers were increasingly willing to pay more for tender, quality beef, underscoring the importance of continued investment in improved breeds, quality feed and productive pastures.

State to expand services at the National Spinal Injury Referral Hospital

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A (KNA)

The Government is exploring ways to expand specialised rehabilitation services at the National Spinal Injury Referral Hospital (NSIRH) to accommodate patients recovering from stroke, major surgery and other disabling conditions.

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr Ouma Oluga who toured the hospital in Nairobi to review service delivery, assess ongoing projects, engage healthcare workers and identify priority areas requiring government support called for continued investment in specialised skills, modern technology and infrastructure.

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr Ouma Oluga during a tour of the National Spinal Injury Referral Hospital (NSIRH).

He also encouraged the hospital's management to develop practical proposals outlining priority areas requiring government support.

Dr Oluga inspected clinical and rehabilitation units, physiotherapy services, diagnostic and treatment areas, as well as equipment installed under the National Equipment Service Programme.

He reviewed the utilisation of the equipment and its contribution to specialised patient care.

The PS commended healthcare workers for their dedication, noting that NSIRH plays a critical role in treating and rehabilitating patients with spinal cord injuries from Kenya and the wider East and Central African region.

Dr Oluga emphasised the importance of a responsive workforce, specialised training, sustainable health financing and patient-centred care in implementing the Government's health reforms.

Kenya Pushes for a new approach to Global land restoration at UNCCD COP17

BY MOTURI NYABONYI (PCO)

Land is not just the ground beneath our feet. It is the infrastructure that everything else depends on; food, water, jobs, stability. And yet, around the world, that infrastructure is wearing out fast. The numbers tell the story, there's now a $355 billion annual gap in the financing needed to achieve Land Degradation Neutrality worldwide. That was the backdrop as world leaders, technical experts, civil society groups and international negotiators gathered in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, for the seventeenth Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).

The kenyan delegation, led by Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Dr. Deborah Mlongo Barasa, played an active role in shaping decisions on land degradation, drought resilience and sustainable rangeland management.

The opening sessions, convened by Mongolian President Ukhnaagiin Khürelsükh alongside the UN Deputy Secretary-General, former heads of state and UNCCD Executive Secretary Yasmine Fouad, arrived at a shared conclusion that food and water security both come down to land security. Land degradation isn't a side issue, it's a risk multiplier that touches everything else. The consensus was that governments need to stop thinking in terms of scattered projects and start building large-scale, country-led investment pipelines instead.

Dr. Barasa put the underlying argument plainly: every economy, no matter how advanced or industrialised, is built on natural resources first. Land, water, forests and soil are not background scenery to economic activity, they are its infrastructure, the same way roads, power grids and ports are. She argued that land should be managed as an asset that appreciates in value, not written off as a cost. To back that up, she pointed to Kenya's own commitment, growing 15 billion trees by 2032, a national presidential directive , aimed at restoring forests, soils, watersheds, rangelands, farms, mangroves and drylands all at once, with the goal of securing water supplies, creating green jobs and building resilience against climate shocks.

Good intentions only go so far without funding behind them. At a World Bank Group side event titled "It Takes a Village," the conversation turned to a familiar frustration; there's plenty of capital out there globally, but very little of it is actually reaching land restoration projects on the ground. Kenya's response was to push for an Africa Land Restoration Investment Facility, a mechanism meant to bring governments, development banks, climate funds and private investors together around bankable projects rather than one-off initiatives.

The message from investors and development banks was consistent: they need clear legal frameworks and solid institutional backing, things like permanent multi-year trust funds and proper risk-sharing tools, before their commitment to financially scale. Kenya already has a couple of examples worth pointing to at home. The Watershed Services Improvement Project (KEWASIP) and the national Jaza Miti platform both show how transparent data, public financing and streamlined reporting can help national and county-level institutions actually work together instead of past each other.

None of this works without the people who actually live on and manage the land. COP17 overlapped with discussions tied to the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists, which brought attention to pastoralist communities. Pastoralist mobility isn't a problem to be solved, it's actually part of the solution. These communities have been managing rangelands sustainably for generations. Kenya's delegation also pushed for young people to be given real career paths in fields like AI, spatial mapping, carbon markets and green business, through an initiative called the African Restoration Corps. Alongside that, there was a strong push for women to lead, not just be included, as investors and decision-makers in land governance, and for governments to finally address the fact that more than a billion people worldwide still lack secure rights to the land they live on, particularly marginalized groups, so that restoration funding actually reaches the communities that need it.

Speaking on Water Day, Dr. Barasa made a point worth sitting with 'drought is less a climate problem and more a governance and investment problem. Instead of waiting for a crisis and then scrambling to respond, countries need to plan ahead, county by county, linking water access, food security and peacebuilding together.' Tools like the International Drought Resilience Observatory are meant to help make that shift from reaction to preparation. That same thinking shaped Kenya's bilateral meetings in Ulaanbaatar.

Dr. Barasa reaffirmed Kenya's role in the International Drought Resilience Alliance (IDRA) and struck a partnership with The Nature Conservancy on sustainable energy and landscape restoration. She met with Uganda's Minister of Water and Environment, Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Kahinda Otafiire, to talk through shared ecosystems and cross-border cooperation, including plans around Kenya's upcoming Mazingira Day. She also held talks with UNFCCC Executive Secretary Simon Stiell on carrying forward the Nairobi Declaration, reforming climate finance for loss and damage, and lining up regional strategy ahead of COP32 and COP33. A separate meeting with the IUCN focused on scaling up techniques like aerial seeding and mangrove restoration.

To close out the mission, Dr. Barasa brought together Kenya's full COP17 delegation, representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NEMA, NDMA, KenGen, civil society, academia and the wildlife sector, to align on Kenya's position. Working through the African Group of Negotiators (AGN) and AMCEN, Kenya and its neighbours made their stance clear: Africa isn't looking for a bailout. It's looking for investment. The bigger idea running through all of this is that climate, biodiversity and land degradation shouldn't be treated as three separate problems requiring three separate pots of financing. Bring them together, and the hope is that this becomes the generation that stops watching land degrade and starts restoring it, along with the water, the livelihoods and the hope that comes with it.

Trans Nzoia opens vocational centre for visually impaired

Governor George Natembeya commissions Mitoto Vocational Centre for the visually impaired. The facility which comprises of dormitories, a bakery and a kitchen among other facilities was sponsored by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development through Deutsches Blindenhilfswerk, Ananse, and Sallus Oculi Kenya.

BY ISAIAH NAYIKA (KNA)

Trans Nzoia Governor, George Natembeya, has commissioned Mitoto Vocational Centre for the visually impaired.

The Centre, which has been funded by Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development through Deutsches Blindenhilfswerk, Ananse, and Sallus Oculi Kenya, is the first of its kind in the region and comprises of dormitories, a bakery and a kitchen among other facilities

Natembeya said the institution, as a centre of excellence, is expected to empower learners living with visual impairment in the County, neighboring counties, and across borders.

He reaffirmed his administration's commitment to ensuring that every learner in the county, regardless of their condition, accesses education and skills that will help them earn a living.

"This facility is one of its kind in this region, and it is going to help empower our students living with these challenges. This emphasizes commitment to ensure a level playing ground for all children irrespective of their status," he said.

Hailing the support from partners, Natembeya added, "Through our collaboration with our partners, we have been able to establish a world-class facility here. We are now looking into how to expand it further, including purchasing more land."

The institution's Board Chair Joyce Nakhanu hailed the support of partners through which it was able to build adequate classrooms and dormitories for both boys and girls, among other facilities.

She challenged parents and members of the community with children living with visual impairment to enroll them at the institution.

"It would be a big loss to the county, after our partners have put up such a massive facility, to miss out on learners," she said.

She further urged the County Government of Trans Nzoia, through the Department of Education and Vocational Training, to continue supporting the institution by employing more staff.

Kenya expands local drug production to cut imports

PPB is working with the manufacturers to ensure the new investments translate into production facilities that meet required standards of quality, safety and efficacy.

BY JUDY SHERI (PCO)

Kenya is seeking to produce 50 per cent of essential health products locally in an effort to reduce its reliance on imported medicines.

Some 13 pharmaceutical manufacturers have established or expanded production facilities in the country, opening a new chapter in the growth of the local pharmaceutical industry.

The investments come as Kenya seeks to address a longstanding dependence on external supply chains, with an estimated 70 to 80 per cent of health products and technologies currently imported.

The 13 manufacturers are Med Aditus, Kenya Biovax Institute, Biopharma Limited in Gatundu-Thika, Full Care Limited, Tanatis Global Limited, Crown Healthcare, Regal Pharmaceuticals with its new penicillin plant, Spora International, Recon Health, the KEMRI Production Facility, Zuventus Limited, Aviazure Limited and Galaxy Pharmaceuticals.

The facilities are at different stages of establishment, ranging from plant construction and equipment installation to development of pharmaceutical quality systems and regulatory readiness.

Their entry into the market is expected to expand Kenya's manufacturing base while creating opportunities for skilled employment, investment and increased availability of essential medicines.

It also positions the country to progressively develop pharmaceutical production capacity capable of serving the wider regional market.

The Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB), which regulates health products and technologies in Kenya, is working with the manufacturers to ensure the new investments translate into production facilities that meet required standards of quality, safety and efficacy.

PPB Chief Executive Officer Dr Ahmed Mohamed said the growing investment demonstrates increasing confidence in Kenya as a pharmaceutical manufacturing destination.

"The entry of new manufacturers demonstrates growing confidence in Kenya's pharmaceutical sector. Our responsibility is to provide a clear and predictable regulatory pathway that enables these investments to progress while ensuring that every locally manufactured product meets stringent standards of quality, safety and efficacy," Dr Mohamed said.

President William Ruto engages with PPB CEO Dr Ahmed Mohamed at the Pharmacy and Poisons Board exhibition stand during the Kenya Health Summit 2026.

Under the Pharmacy and Poisons Act, Cap. 244, PPB regulates the manufacture, importation, distribution and use of health products and technologies.

Its support to manufacturers includes regulatory clinics, technical advisory meetings, capacity building and Good Manufacturing Practice inspections.

Manufacturers are also receiving technical guidance on pharmaceutical quality systems, dossier preparation, validation and qualification, data integrity and other requirements necessary to achieve and maintain compliance.

The focus goes beyond increasing the number of factories. Kenya is seeking to build a pharmaceutical industry capable of producing a broader range of products and competing in regional and international markets.

Local pharmaceutical manufacturing is currently concentrated largely in finished dosage forms, packaging and labelling, while production of active pharmaceutical ingredients and excipients remains limited.

Research and development capacity also requires further expansion if the industry is to move into more complex areas of pharmaceutical production.

PPB is consequently supporting efforts to increase utilisation of installed manufacturing capacity by 70 per cent while strengthening technical capabilities for the local production of selected high-volume active pharmaceutical ingredients and excipients.

"Our ambition must extend beyond packaging and producing finished medicines. Kenya needs to progressively develop the capacity to manufacture pharmaceutical ingredients and other critical inputs locally, reducing dependence on imports and strengthening the resilience of our supply chains," Dr Mohamed said.

Manufacturers seeking to compete for regional and global procurement opportunities must demonstrate compliance with internationally recognised quality requirements, he said.

Among the areas receiving attention are World Health Organization prequalification, Good Manufacturing Practice certification and access to local bioequivalence testing.

PPB is working with stakeholders to develop clearer frameworks for establishing bioequivalence study centres and clinical research organisations in Kenya.

"Kenyan manufacturers must be equipped to compete beyond the domestic market. Attaining internationally recognised standards will strengthen confidence in locally produced health products and open access to regional and global procurement opportunities," Dr Mohamed said.

PPB on its part is working towards attaining and sustaining World Health Organization Global Benchmarking Tool Maturity Level 3 status for medicines and vaccines.

100 NYOTA beneficiaries join 500 Kenyan MSMEs at Kigali trade fair

BY ARON KINYAMASYO (KNA)

At least 100 beneficiaries of the Government's National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) programme will be among 500 Kenyan Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) selected to participate in the 26th East African Community (EAC) MSME Trade Fair in Kigali, Rwanda.

They will showcase their products, access regional markets, establish business partnerships and gain exposure to new opportunities within the EAC market.

Cooperatives and MSME Development Cabinet Secretary Wycliffe Oparanya said the Government was giving priority to MSMEs because of their contribution to employment creation, livelihoods and the national economy.

Oparanya said more than 21 million people were engaged in the MSME sector, making it one of the country's most important economic drivers.

Cooperatives and MSME Development Cabinet Secretary Wycliffe Oparanya addresses the media during the commissioning of the EAC MSME Trade Fair 2026 National Organising Committee at NSSF Building, Nairobi. Photo by Aron Kinyamasyo/KNA.

He said the Government is focusing on improving access to finance, markets and digital transformation to enable MSMEs to grow and become competitive in local, regional and international markets.

The CS spoke in Nairobi during the commissioning of the EAC MSME Trade Fair 2026 National Organising Committee, which has been tasked with coordinating preparations for the Kenyan delegation to Kigali.

The committee will oversee facilitation, travel logistics, movement of goods, certification, security coordination and other arrangements required to ensure smooth participation by Kenyan exhibitors.

Oparanya said MSMEs were among the key sectors capable of transforming the Kenyan economy, noting that the sector contributes more than 30 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

"Government has prioritised MSMEs as one of the key sectors of the economy that, if focused on, can change the economy of this country," said Oparanya.

He said the Government could not undertake every aspect of business but had a responsibility to create an enabling environment in which small enterprises could access affordable capital, markets and appropriate technology.

Oparanya said the Government had established various financing programmes to enable MSMEs and individuals to access affordable credit and expand their businesses.

NYOTA programme prepares 2500 youth for workplace training

BY ADAN MOHAMED KNA

More than 2500 Youths in Mandera County have completed a 20-day social-emotional skills development programme under the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA), paving the way for their transition into five months of practical workplace and apprenticeship training.

The completion ceremony brought together beneficiaries from across the county who are set to proceed to the next phase of the programme, the On-the-Job Experience (OJE), where they will gain practical skills and workplace exposure.

Speaking during the ceremony, Abdullahi Yusuf Mohamed, County Director for Youth Affairs, said the initial training aimed at preparing young people for the challenges and opportunities of the workplace.

Mohamed said the beneficiaries will spend a total of six months under the programme, comprising the 20-day social-emotional skills training followed by five months of OJE and apprenticeship training.

The social-emotional skills training was conducted between August 3 and August 23 through 15 approved training centres across Mandera County.

Mohamed said the participation and presentations by the beneficiaries during the completion ceremonies demonstrated the knowledge and skills they had acquired during the 20-day programme.

He added that attendance was monitored through daily reports from the various centres, with approximately 3,000 youth benefiting from the OJE component across the country.

The NYOTA programme has two major components aimed at improving economic opportunities for young people.

According to Mohamed, Component Two has already benefited approximately 2,500 youth in the county.

MyGov.
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026
NAIROBI-KENYA I Issue No. 9/2026-2027
A PUBLICATION OF
Government Advertising Agency
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P.O Box 30025-00100,
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KRA tightens customs valuation, raises benchmark to Sh3.2m

The new threshold is intended to strengthen customs valuation, protect government revenue and create a level playing field for businesses that declare their goods accurately and pay the required taxes.

BY CHRIS MAHANDARA (KNA)

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) has raised the minimum customs benchmark for general containerised consolidation cargo from Sh2.5 million to Sh3.2 million.

The move targets to seal valuation loopholes and protect compliant traders from unfair competition.

In a statement, KRA said the revised benchmark took effect on August 20 following consultations with the Kenya International Freight and Warehousing Association (KIFWA), small traders, cargo consolidators and other private-sector stakeholders.

The authority said the new threshold is intended to strengthen customs valuation, protect government revenue and create a level playing field for businesses that declare their goods accurately and pay the required taxes.

KRA said cargo consolidation remains an important avenue for small traders to import goods by combining shipments in a single container and reducing the cost of international trade.

However, it said the arrangement has in some instances been abused through undervaluation, under-declaration, misdescription, misclassification and concealment of high-value goods, resulting in revenue losses and giving non-compliant businesses an artificial cost advantage.

High-value electronics, including smartphones, are among the goods affected by such practices, with KRA citing cases where high-end phones could be declared as lower-value models to reduce customs value and the taxes payable.


Kenya Revenue Authority headquarters, Nairobi.

The authority stressed that the Sh3.2 million figure is a minimum reference point and not a flat valuation for every container.

"The Sh3.2 million benchmark does not mean that every container is valued at Sh3.2 million. If the actual value of the goods is higher, that value must be declared and the correct taxes paid," KRA said, adding that the benchmark is intended to strengthen valuation controls rather than provide a ceiling for imported goods.

KRA said the previous Sh2.5 million benchmark had remained unchanged for about six years despite changes in economic conditions, import values and the nature of goods entering the country.

The previous threshold had been agreed between small traders and the Government with an understanding that it would be reviewed upwards after one year, but the review did not take place.

KRA said the new benchmark would also help protect local manufacturers from unfair competition arising from undervalued imports.

It said inaccurately declared imports could enter the Kenyan market at artificially low prices, adversely affecting locally manufactured goods whose producers comply with tax and other regulatory requirements.

The authority dismissed suggestions that the measure was a dispute with small traders, saying it recognised the contribution of small businesses to the economy and that many traders and consolidators comply with customs requirements.

Instead, KRA said its focus was on practices that give some businesses an unfair advantage.

The authority also reminded traders that tax compliance does not end after consolidated cargo has been cleared through customs.

Traders selling goods in commercial centres including Eastleigh, Kamukunji, Nyamakima and Toy Market must meet applicable domestic tax obligations, including business registration, electronic invoicing requirements where applicable and accurate declaration of income and taxes due.

Assembly calls for harmonised standards to boost trade

BY SADIK HASSAN AND HUSSEIN ABDULLAHI (KNA)

African countries have been urged to harmonise product standards and quality control systems to remove trade barriers and boost intra-African trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The call was made during the opening of the 32nd General Assembly of the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) in Mombasa, where delegates from more than 40 countries gathered to discuss measures for strengthening standards and facilitating trade across the continent.

The four-day assembly was hosted by the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) and was expected to advance efforts to establish a common certification framework and launch the Africa Quality Mark, also known as the ARSO Dual Mark, aimed at authenticating the quality of products traded within the African market.

KEBS Managing Director Esther Ngari said harmonised standards were critical to supporting AfCFTA by eliminating costly and unnecessary trade barriers that make it difficult for products to move across borders.

Ngari said the continental free-trade initiative sought to reduce tariffs and increase business among African countries.

He noted that intra-African trade remained low at about 16 per cent compared with other regions such as Europe and Asia.

She said a common standardisation system would improve product quality, consumer safety and the competitiveness of African goods, while strengthening confidence among consumers and markets.

"A unified continental standardization system will, in the long run, boost economic development, industrial productivity and consumer confidence," she said.

Ngari said ARSO was harmonising standards across key economic sectors, with priority areas under AfCFTA including agriculture, pharmaceuticals, textiles, automotive, mining and tourism.

She said quality certification would enhance the competitiveness of African products and assure consumers and markets that goods met agreed requirements.

The KEBS chief said Africa can no longer afford to remain fragmented in its standards and certification systems, urging countries to embrace a common approach that would facilitate seamless movement of goods.

"We need to ensure that once a certificate is issued in one country, then the products can be able to cross the borders without having to be retested again," she said.

Ngari added that Kenya, as a signatory to AfCFTA, recognised the critical role of standards in enabling trade and ensuring that the agreement delivered greater economic opportunities for businesses.

BRIEFS

Teso farmers to benefit from cotton ginnery

BY MOSES WEKESA (KNA)

Farmers in Teso North will benefit from cotton farming following the establishment of a ginnery at Jairos Farmers' Co-operative Society.

Installation of the processing machines is underway.

Once operational, the ginnery will process seed cotton obtained from farmers into lint bales while additional machines will crush the cotton seed to produce crude cotton seed oil and cake for animal feed.

The society plans to acquire another machine to refine the crude oil into edible cottonseed oil.

The co-operative society acquired the ginnery through support from the Busia County Government under the National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (NAVCDP).

NAVCDP is a World Bank-supported project aimed at increasing market participation and promoting value addition among smallholder farmers to improve their incomes.

Previously, the cotton collected from farmers in the region was transported to other ginneries, including the Muluanda Ginnery in Samia, for processing

Speaking to KNA, the chairman of Jairos Farmers' co-operative society, Sammy Odama, urged more farmers to join the society and plant cotton to provide sufficient raw material for the ginnery.

"The machines will have a capacity to process over 1,000 kilogrammes of seed cotton per hour. We have three of the machines, so the capacity is high and we need high volumes of cotton," Odama noted.

He assured farmers that once the ginnery starts operation, the society will continue supporting them to ensure they benefit from cotton farming and are able to take care of their families.

"We have already issued sprays to farmers and we shall also provide inputs," he said.

Odama noted that the society had managed to provide bursaries to about 100 students from farming families in the region this year using profits realized from the crop.

Kenya, UK seek stronger partnerships to reform correctional system

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A KNA

Kenya is seeking stronger international partnerships to transform its correctional system.

The State Department for Correctional Services has placed greater emphasis on rehabilitation, community corrections and the successful reintegration of offenders into society.

Principal Secretary Dr. Salome Beacco said the Department is exploring strategic collaborations to strengthen the continuum of custody and ensure offenders receive coordinated support from incarceration through community-based rehabilitation.

Beacco spoke during a meeting with British High Commissioner to Kenya Matt Baugh, where the two discussed opportunities to deepen cooperation in the correctional sector.

The PS said the reforms would include building the capacity of correctional officers while placing community corrections at the centre of efforts to modernise the country's correctional system.

She said closer coordination between officers working in custodial institutions and those implementing non-custodial correctional programmes would help improve the transition of offenders from prison to community-based rehabilitation and eventual reintegration.

The approach, she said, would promote greater mutual support among correctional officers and ensure that rehabilitation continues beyond prison walls.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
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