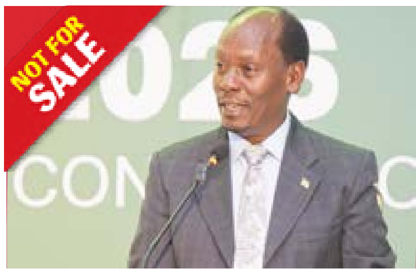

DIGITAL ECONOMY

CS Kabogo urges Private Capital to invest in Kenya's Digital Future

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RESEARCH

Mombasa University scientists to develop climate-smart wastewater treatment technology.

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YOUR WEEKLY REVIEW

Issue No. 10/2026-2027

Gov't secures Sh10 billion to complete Thwake Dam

The construction of the dam has resumed after a nearly two-year hiatus. Water Secretary Eng. Samwel Alima said the Government has secured adequate funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB) to complete critical outstanding works.

FULL STORY PAGE 2

Thwake Dam construction resumes after two-year delay

The government has secured Sh10.6 billion from the African Development Bank (AfDB) to complete critical outstanding works.

BY PATRICK NYAKUNDI (KNA)

The Government has secured Sh10.6 billion funding to complete the construction of Thwake Multipurpose Dam.

The construction of the dam at the confluence of Athi and Thwake Rivers in Makueni and Kitui Counties, has resumed after a nearly two-year hiatus.

Ministry of Water and Sanitation, Water Secretary Eng. Samwel Alima has said the government has secured adequate funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB) to complete critical outstanding works.

The Water Secretary said the Ministry will ensure the implementation of three critical items pending including the completion of the concrete phase, construction of the bridge connecting Makueni and Kitui Counties, and the dam gates that will block water.

"Today we are here to witness the resumption of work at Thwake Dam. The works have not been going on for some time now for almost two years due to lack of resources. That is financing," Alima said while addressing the media at Thwake Multi-purpose dam.

"The government has secured Sh10.6 billion from the African Development Bank (AfDB). The construction of the critical works have now resumed. I expect the contractor to resume work fully," he stated.

During the media briefing, Alima disclosed that the works will be completed in the next eight months and directed the contractor to operate on a day-and-night schedule with the state expecting to fill the dam by the end of January 2027.

Workers at the Thwake Multi-purpose Dam who resumed working on the concrete Phase.

Subsequently, he disclosed that the Ministry has also started to package the down-stream works which include generation of 20 megawatts, irrigation and supply of water to Wote and Kibwezi towns and Konza Techno-city.

"The next eight months will be critical. We have started packaging the downstream works as well. We will be tracking the progress every day," the Water Secretary said.

Alima also said the employers camp will be completed. He said workers will be recalled back to do the work.

It is the hope of authorities that the reservoir will be filled in a single rainy season, aided by expected El Niño rains, rather than the two seasons originally projected.

"With the super El Niño, we can finish with one season of rain. We initially expected two seasons.

The catchment is big as it starts from Nairobi. The project team is hopeful of completing the filling faster than earlier forecasts," he noted.

Alima thanked the leadership and residents of Makueni and Kitui counties for their support.

State commits to transform sickle cell care

BY MICHAEL OMONDI (KNA)

Health Cabinet Secretary (CS) Aden Duale has reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to building a health system in which no child's quality or length of life is determined by sickle cell disease, their place of birth or their ability to access care.

Opening a three-day Global Sickle Cell Disease Conference in Nairobi, Duale called for a shift from fragmented interventions to a coordinated national response anchored in early diagnosis, continuous care and the dignity of people living with the condition.

During the conference, themed 'Global Standards, Local Impact: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Across Systems and Communities', the CS revealed that an estimated 250,000 Kenyans live with sickle cell disease, with approximately 14,000 affected children born annually.

Although the condition has historically been more prevalent around Lake Victoria, Western Kenya and the Coast, he reiterated that the disease is increasingly recognised as a national health and equity concern.

According to the CS, Kenya is integrating sickle cell services into the broader health system.

Infant screening is being expanded following the adoption of the 2023 screening policy and its inclusion in the Mother and Child Health Booklet.

More than 8,000 infants across 10 counties have so far been screened.

In addition, Duale pointed out that comprehensive care is also being strengthened through initiatives including the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH) Centre of Excellence, the Kianda Level 4 model, PEN-Plus, KETAN and IMARA Care.

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Education ministry extends application deadline for tertiary education funding

The Government has disbursed Sh22.12 billion during the first semester or term to support continuing university students and TVET trainees under the tertiary education funding programme.

BY NANCY OMONDI(KNA)

The Government has extended the application deadline for tertiary education funding for first-time university students and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) trainees to September 21, 2026.

The extension, announced by Education Cabinet Secretary (CS), Julius Migos Ogamba, seeks to give eligible students and trainees, who did not apply before the initial deadline an opportunity to access government financial support.

The initial application window closed on August 31, 2026, with a total of 789,422 applications received for funding.

In a press statement issued, Ogamba noted that the extension had been approved after the Government recognised that some eligible applicants may have been unable to submit their applications within the initial period, due to various circumstances.

"Recognising that some eligible students and trainees may not have met the initial deadline on account of various causes, the Universities Fund and the Higher Education Loans Board have been directed to extend the application window for all eligible applicants to 21st September, 2026," Ogamba stated.

The CS urged all eligible first-time applicants joining universities and TVET institutions to take advantage of the additional period and submit their applications promptly.

The extension is expected to benefit students who may otherwise have missed-out on government funding because they did not complete the application process, before the August 31 deadline.

Education Cabinet Secretary (CS), Julius Migos Ogamba, speaking at a past event. File Photo

The Government has also disclosed that it has already disbursed Sh22.12 billion during the first semester or term to support continuing university students and TVET trainees under the tertiary education funding programme.

Meanwhile, Ogamba reported that the applications submitted during the extended window would be processed under the Student-Centred Funding Model (SCFM), which currently guides the allocation of government financial assistance to students and trainees.

"For the avoidance of doubt, it is notified for the general information of the public that applications for funding for first-time applicants will be considered and processed in accordance with the current Student-Centred Funding Model," he reiterated.

The CS further clarified that the funding arrangements would subsequently transition to the Universal Access and Funding Framework (UAFF), once Parliament passes the Tertiary Education Placement and Funding Bill, 2026.

"Appropriate transitional mechanisms to the Universal Access and Funding Framework shall be implemented once Parliament passes the Tertiary Education Placement and Funding Bill, 2026," Ogamba added.

The extension comes as thousands of students prepare to begin university and TVET studies, with government funding playing a key role in enabling learners from financially constrained households, to pursue tertiary education.

Under the current funding arrangement, eligible students apply for financial assistance through the relevant government agencies, with the level of support determined in accordance with the applicable funding framework.

The Universities Fund and the Higher Education Loans Board are, therefore, expected to continue receiving and processing applications during the extended period.

In the meantime, the Ministry of Education has called on prospective beneficiaries to submit their applications within the new deadline rather than wait until the final days of the extension.

The Government's latest move also provides an opportunity for eligible students who may have experienced difficulties during the initial application period, to complete the process and be considered for funding.

The new deadline is September 21, 2026, after which applications will be handled in accordance with the prevailing government funding framework.

KenGen signs the 2025–2028 Collective Bargaining Agreement

KenGen MD & CEO Eng. Peter Njenga (centre) with Kenya Electrical Traders & Allied Workers Union (KETAWU) National General Secretary Ernest Nadome and KenGen General Manager Corporate Services Beatrice Kandie take a moment following the successful negotiations and signing of the 2025–2028 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA). The CBA promotes good employee relations at KenGen particularly with unionaisable employees in generating electricity for Kenya's economic development.

Varsity opens Sh 580 million blue economy research facility

BY BRIAN ONDENG (KNA)

Blue economy research hub at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University

The Blue Economy Research Hub at the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology is finally ready for utilization.

The Institutions Vice Chancellor, Prof Emily Akuno, said the construction of the research facility was fully funded by the National government.

He was speaking during the handing over of the Sh580 million research facility whose construction started two years ago immediately after commissioning in January 2023.

Prof Akuno urged researchers from Kenya and across the region to utilize the hub for purposes of engaging in research and innovations to create knowledge and improve human lives.

The Blue Economy Research Hub in Siaya County is approximately 20 kilometers from Bondo town.

It has State-of-the-Art laboratories, conference rooms and accommodation facilities.

Prof Akuno disclosed that the facility, which will welcome scientific and social researchers, will also provide molecular research services to boost disease surveillance efforts in the region.

"I am pleased that, today, this facility has been handed over to us to open its door for utilization by researchers. We have a good facility here in a serene environment that researchers from the country and the entire region can make use of to come-up with innovations and technologies that improve lives," said Prof Akuno.

"Our state- of- the- art laboratories are fitted with modern equipment that will conduct molecular research for various health facilities and help the government's surveillance on disease outbreaks," she added.

She called on the State Department of Science Research and Innovation to invest in the facility by providing more equipment to boost its operations.

"Currently the hub is equipped courtesy of JOOST Vlir-IUC project, but we want to call on the State Department of Science Research and Innovation to hold our hands by investing in this facility for it to operate optimally," Akuno said.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT

PUBLIC NOTICE

STAKEHOLDER VALIDATION FORUM ON THE DRAFT ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY (REGISTRATION, LICENSING AND COMPLIANCE) RULES, 2026 AND THE DRAFT REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to the Engineering Technology Act (Cap 530A) and in compliance with the Statutory Instruments Act (Cap 2A), the Ministry of Roads and Transport, in conjunction with Kenya Engineering Technology Registration Board recently conducted a Public Participation on the draft Engineering Technology (Registration, Licensing and Compliance) Rules, 2026 and the draft Regulatory Impact Statement.

Following the Public Participation Notice issued on **9th June 2026**, and the subsequent public participation exercise held between **29th June and 6th July 2026** throughout the country, the Ministry received and evaluated comments and submissions from stakeholders and the public regarding the draft engineering technology rules.

The Ministry has prepared official responses to the stakeholders' and public comments. A compressive matrix detailing the received comments alongside the Ministry's responses is available on the Ministry's website at **https://roads.go.ke/policy-documents** and **https://ketrb.go.ke/draftregulations2026**.

The Ministry hereby invites all stakeholders and members of the public to review the responses and actions taken on the comments and concerns raised by participating in a virtual Validation Exercise.

Validation Exercise Details:

- Date: **Wednesday, 16th September 2026**
- Time: 9.00am
- Virtual Public Validation exercise will be held virtually on **9th September 2026** using the following link: **https://shorturl.at/kI2Xs**

Please note that registration before joining is mandatory.

The Ministry remains committed to ensuring transparency, stakeholder engagement, and inclusivity in development of engineering technology rules.

CABINET SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TEACHERS SERVICE COMMISSION

INVITATION TO TENDER

The Teachers Service Commission invites interested and eligible bidders/tenderers to bid for the tenders listed below:

S/N	TENDER NO.	TENDER DESCRIPTION	BID/TENDER SECURITY	CATEGORY	CLOSING/ OPENING DATE
1.	TSC/722/0002/2026-2027	Provision of Private Motor Vehicle and Motorcycle Insurance Services	Tender Securing Declaration Form	Reserved for Women Only	Tuesday, 22 September 2026 at 10:00 am
2.	TSC/722/0006/2026-2027	Provision of a Comprehensive Group Personal Accident and Work Injury Benefit Cover for Commissioners and Secretariat Staff for a period of One year	600,000	Open Tender	Tuesday, 22 September 2026 at 9:00 am.

Detailed Tender documents may be obtained at the EGP System **www.egpkenya.go.ke**

Bidders are required to register and forward their particulars to TSC Supply Chain Management Services through Email to **ddprocurement@tsc.go.ke.** The particulars should include Name of the Firm, Address, Tender Name, Telephone Number and Email Address.

All inquiries and clarifications should be sent via email to: **ddprocurement@tsc.go.ke**

COMMISSION SECRETARY/ CHIEF EXECUTIVE

KENYA VISION 2030

Kenya and Uganda push for seamless cross-border tourism

Kenyans travelling to Uganda rose by over 100,000 between 2024 and 2025, while Ugandans visiting the Kenyan Coast increased from about 170,000 to 260,000 over the same period

BY ANDREW HINGA (KNA)

Kenya and Uganda are pushing for the removal of cross-border travel barriers between the two countries ahead of the Fifth Uganda-Kenya Coast Tourism and Innovation Summit set for October 26 and 27, 2026 in Mombasa.

Speaking during the media launch, Uganda's Consul General to Kenya, Amb. Herbert Kiguli, said the annual event, themed *"unlocking tourism opportunities and resolving policy bottlenecks through technology, youth and seamless mobility across East Africa,"* would bring together policy makers from both countries, to address obstacles hindering tourism growth in the region.

Amb. Kiguli identified immigration procedures at points of entry as one of the key challenges facing travelers between the two countries, saying tourists were still required to declare the length of their stay despite both nations belonging to the East African Community.

"Article 104 of the East African Community Treaty, which provides for free movement of people and goods across the region, has remained largely unimplemented, with Member States maintaining barriers that continue to affect tourist movement and growth," said Kiguli.

The envoy also cited high air travel costs as a major obstacle, proposing that the region be treated as a single block for aviation purposes to eliminate international taxes and lower fares between Uganda and Kenya.

He further pointed to challenges in mobile money transactions, noting that Ugandan visitors were often unable to access Safaricom lines upon arrival in Kenya, limiting their ability to transact using cashless platforms such as M-PESA.

"Despite the challenges, cross-border tourism numbers had continued to grow. Kenyans travelling to Uganda rose by over 100,000 between 2024 and 2025, while Ugandans visiting the Kenyan Coast increased from about 170,000 to 260,000 over the same period," added Amb. Kiguli.

Uganda Consul General Amb. Herbert Kiguli briefs the media on the sidelines of the launch of the 5th Uganda-Kenya Coast Tourism and Innovation Summit in Mombasa

He projected that by the end of 2026, the numbers would rise above 600,000 for Kenyans travelling to Uganda and above 400,000 for Ugandans travelling to Kenya.

The envoy noted that Uganda remained the second largest source market for tourists visiting Kenya, while Kenya was the top source market for Uganda, adding that the two countries planned to formalize collaboration between tour operators and travel agents through Memoranda of Understanding.

Kenya Association of Travel Agents (KATA) Coast Region Chairman, Patrick Kamanga, said the lack of a regional tourism Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA), was hampering efforts to package multi-country itineraries for visitors seeking to tour Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania on a single-entry permit.

Kamanga also decried high airfares, saying a one-way ticket between Mombasa and Entebbe could cost as much as 800 US dollars, compared to about 50 US dollars for similar distances in Europe.

"Airlines should lower fares to boost passenger numbers on regional routes, including Mombasa-Kigali and Mombasa Dar-es-Salaam; I commend some local carriers for introducing competitive fares on the Mombasa-Dar-es-Salaam route," said Kamanga.

Kenya Association of Hotelkeepers and Caterers (KAHC), Executive Officer and Mombasa Tourism Council Chairman, Dr. Sam Ikwaye, said the Summit would focus on improving air access to the Coast region and advancing an Open Skies Policy, to allow tourists to visit both countries on a single visa.

Dr Ikwaye said the Summit would also address hotel classification and grading standards across the region, noting that the Tourism Regulatory Authority had reviewed criteria to align regional hospitality standards with international benchmarks.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF MINING, BLUE ECONOMY AND MARITIME AFFAIRS

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE BLUE ECONOMY AND FISHERIES

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE: THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2027/2028 AND THE MEDIUM-TERM BUDGET

The Government of the Republic of Kenya is in the process of developing the FY 2027/2028 and the medium-term budget. The Process is anchored in the Constitution of Kenya, Article 201 (a) and the Public Finance Management Act, CAP 412A which guides on the need for openness, accountability and public participation in financial matters.

The State Department for the Blue Economy and Fisheries has developed the draft budget requirements for the Blue Economy and Fisheries Sub Sector for FY 2027/2028 and the medium-term. The Subsector identified priorities under the Fisheries Development and Management, and Development and Coordination of the Blue Economy Programmes.

The expected key outputs and proposed budget allocations are contained in the **Programme Based Budget (PBB) Report for the Financial years 2027/2028 – 2029/2030.** The report can be accessed through the **Ministry's Website (www.mibema.go.ke)** or via the link **https://shorturl.at/siXiP.**

The State Department is therefore calling for public views on the budget proposals from stakeholders and members of the general public. Your views/memoranda may be emailed through **ps@blueeconomy.go.ke** and copied to **budget@blueeconomy.go.ke.** Hard copies can be sent in clearly marked envelopes '**Public participation 2027/2028**' to the address below.

The Principal Secretary
State Department for the Blue Economy and Fisheries
14th Floor SHA Building, Ragati Road
P.O. Box 58187-00200
Nairobi, Kenya

All views should reach the Principal Secretary not later than **21st September, 2026.**

KENYA VISION 2030

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA REVENUE AUTHORITY

Tulipe Ushuru,Tujitegemee!

Public Notice

Tax Amnesty on Interest, Penalties and Fines

Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) informs taxpayers that the Tax Amnesty Programme is in effect from **1st July, 2026 to 31st December, 2026**. The amnesty covers interest, penalties and fines relating to tax liabilities for periods up to **31st December,2025,** subject to the conditions provided under the law.

Who Qualifies?

1. **Taxpayers with outstanding principal tax**
   Taxpayers with outstanding principal taxes relating to periods up to 31st December, 2025 qualify for the amnesty upon full payment of the qualifying principal tax on or before **31st December, 2026**.

   Taxpayers who are unable to settle the qualifying principal tax in a single payment may apply for an **Automatic Payment Plan** through iTax. However, to benefit from the amnesty, the entire outstanding principal taxes must be fully paid by **31st December,2026**.

2. **Taxpayers with unfiled tax returns**
   Taxpayers with unfiled tax returns for periods up to 31st December, 2025 should file all outstanding returns during the amnesty period to qualify for the amnesty. Taxpayers filing returns without any outstanding principal taxes (Nil returns) will automatically qualify for amnesty for the late filing penalties. Taxpayers filing returns with principal taxes will qualify for amnesty once the principal taxes are fully paid, **on or before 31st December, 2026**.

3. **Taxpayers with no outstanding principal tax**
   Taxpayers who have no outstanding principal tax for periods up to 31st December, 2025, but have outstanding interest, penalties or fines, **qualify automatically** for the amnesty. No application is required.

Once all the qualifying conditions are met, the amnesty will be automatically granted, the taxpayer ledger updated and the Amnesty Certificate and notification will be availed through the iTax system.

For additional information kindly access the Tax Amnesty Guidelines on the KRA website; www.kra.go.ke or our call our contact centre on 0711 099 999 or email callcentre@kra.go.ke

Commissioner for Large & Medium Taxpayers

www.kra.go.ke

Disclaimer: KRA notifies taxpayers that it will not accept responsibility for payments not received, credited and validated in the relevant KRA accounts.
Corruption Reporting: +254 (0726) 984 668, **Email:** corruptionreporting@kra.go.ke. **Complaints & Information Centre Hotlines:** +254 709 017 700 / 800 **Email:** cic@kra.go.ke

@KRACare Kenya Revenue Authority Kenya Revenue Authority Kenya Revenue Authority

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

BIOVAX Protecting Health, Promoting Life

KENYA BIOVAX INSTITUTE LIMITED

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

(CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country:	**Republic of Kenya**
Name of Project:	**HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS RESPONSE AND RESILIENCE PROJECT**
Credit No:	**7405-KE**
Project ID:	**P180127**
Reference No.	**KE-KBI-569948-CS-CQS**
ASSIGNMENT TITLE:	**CONSULTING SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A 20 YEAR INTEGRATED BUSINESS PLAN FOR THE KENYA BIOVAX INSTITUTE**

1. The Government of Kenya (GoK) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Health Emergency Preparedness Response and Resilience Project (HEPRR) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

2. The consulting services (***"the Services"***) includes Consulting Services for Development of a 20-Year Integrated Business Plan for The Kenya Biovax Institute. The duration of the assignment will be Eight Months from the contract commencement date.

3. The detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) for the assignment can be found at the following Kenya Biovax Institute Limited's website: **www.biovax.go.ke**.

4. The Kenya Biovax Institute Limited now invites eligible consulting firms (***"Consultants"***) to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

   4.1 Core business and years in business

   The consulting firm shall be legally registered/incorporated as a consulting entity and shall have its core business providing business development, commercial strategy, and market entry support or related fields for Life Science companies, for a minimum period of five (5) years.

   4.2 Relevant experience:

   The consulting firm shall demonstrate as having successfully executed and completed at least two (2) assignments of similar nature, scope, and complexity, and in a similar operating environment within the last five (5) years.
   Details of similar assignments-Name and address of the client, scope, value, and period should be provided in the submitted proposal including enumeration of these similar past assignments.

   4.3 Technical and managerial capability of the firm:

   The consulting firm shall demonstrate adequate technical depth, financial and business advisory capacity, and managerial capability to undertake this assignment, supported by submitted company profiles, organisational structures, and availability of suitably qualified experts.

   Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

5. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's ***"Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers"*** First Published July 2016 and Revised Fourth Edition November 2020 (***"Procurement Regulations"***), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

6. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

7. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultant Qualifications Selection (CQS) method set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations.

8. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours East African Time (EAT) from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour (1300 to 1400hours (EAT) and public holidays.

9. Expressions of Interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (In person, or mail or email) and be clearly marked **"Expression of Interest Consulting Services for Development of a 20-Year Integrated Business Plan for The Kenya Biovax Institute** by **24th September 2026 at 1000 hours East African Time.**

EOI submissions delivered by email should strictly be sent to: **HEPRRProcurement@biovax.go.ke**

Address:
Director General/CEO
Kenya BioVax Institute Limited
Kenya Women Finance Trust- Upper Hill
3rd Floor, Wing A
P.O. Box 40799 – 00100
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel: +254 775 751 639
E-mail: info@biovax.go.ke
Copy: procurement@biovax.go.ke

KENYA VISION 2030

Ted McKinney, Chief Executive Officer of NASDA; Professor Ratemo Michieka, the Chancellor of Tharaka University; and Professor Daniel Mugendi Njiru, chair of the Vice-Chancellors Forum for Public Universities in Kenya speaking to the media during a media engagement in Nairobi

US and Kenyan universities seek to revive agricultural extension services

BY WANGARI NDIRANGU (KNA)

Kenya is adopting lessons from the United States to revive the agricultural extension system.

In the US, universities play a central role in research, technologies and technical expertise to help farmers.

Consequently, agriculture experts have called for stronger university-county partnerships to reconnect farmers with research and modern technologies.

The proposal emerged during a media engagement hosted by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) and its Kenyan implementing partner, Rootooba which brought together US agricultural officials and Kenyan university leaders to explore areas of agricultural cooperation.

Doug Miyamoto, Director of the Wyoming Department of Agriculture and a member of NASDA, said a strong extension system would provide an important link between Kenya's universities and farmers, enabling producers to benefit from research generated by academic institutions.

"We believe that extension can provide a vehicle to get that great technical information that you have out to your farmers," Miyamoto said.

He noted that the US had benefited from a long-established system in which universities conduct research and extension officers help farmers apply the findings to improve production.

Miyamoto said Kenya also has strong institutions of learning and research whose expertise could have a greater impact if effectively transferred to farmers through extension services.

Professor Daniel Mugendi Njiru, chair of the Vice-Chancellors Forum for Public Universities in Kenya, acknowledged the country's agricultural extension system had weakened over the years, particularly at the county level.

"As we all know, the issue of extension has not been handled very well in our counties, and yet agriculture is the backbone of our economy," he said.

Prof. Njiru noted that Kenya could learn from the US land-grant university model, which anchors extension in universities and creates a direct link between research, innovation and farmers.

National blood collection and transfusion system to receive boost

MICHAEL OMONDI (KNA)

The Government is committed to strengthening and sustaining the national blood transfusion system to ensure safe blood is available to Kenyans who need it and when required.

Principal Secretary (PS) for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga urged the Kenya Blood Transfusion and Transplant Service (KNBTS) to adopt innovative and sustainable approaches to blood collection, testing, processing and distribution.

Speaking during a tour of the KNBTS headquarters and Nairobi Regional Blood Transfusion Centre Dr. Oluga said reliable blood transfusion services are critical to maternal and newborn care, emergency and critical care, cancer treatment and management of anaemia.

"Blood is a critical enabler in delivering Universal Health Coverage. These essential services depend on a sound, round-the-clock blood transfusion system," he said.

During the visit, the PS inspected blood banking, specialised testing, blood-component preparation and quality management systems. He also engaged blood donors and staff to understand their experiences and identify areas requiring additional support.

Dr. Oluga urged KNBTS to strengthen collaboration with county governments and embrace sustainable blood collection models while maximising the value of blood products, including plasma.

Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr. Ouma Oluga (centre) follows explanations from a health expert during his tour of the Kenya Blood Transfusion and Transplant Service (KNBTS)

He pledged the Ministry of Health's support for viable innovations and efforts to develop an internationally accredited blood transfusion service.

"The Ministry remains committed to improving blood availability, strengthening testing and processing standards, and ensuring timely distribution to health facilities across Kenya," the PS said.

Gov't to strengthen research and regulation of traditional medicine

Ministry of Health is finalising the National Traditional and Complementary Medicine Policy which will guide the education, registration, licensing, and regulation of practitioners while promoting the quality, safety and efficacy of traditional medicine.

BY ARON KINYAMASYO AND MICHAEL OMONDI (KNA)

The Government is stepping up efforts to integrate evidence-based traditional and complementary medicine into Kenya's healthcare system.

But increased research, regulation and documentation of indigenous knowledge is expected to play a central role.

Health Cabinet Secretary (CS) Aden Duale affirmed that the government is committed to integrating evidence-based traditional medicine into the country's healthcare system by 2028 as part of efforts to improve access to quality healthcare and achieve Universal Health Coverage (UHC).

Duale said the Ministry of Health is finalising the National Traditional and Complementary Medicine Policy which will guide the education, registration, licensing, and regulation of practitioners while promoting the quality, safety and efficacy of traditional medicine.

Speaking at the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI) during celebrations to mark African Traditional Medicine Day, he said the policy underwent wider stakeholder validation in April 2026.

He added that the document will proceed to nationwide public participation before being presented to Cabinet for approval.

Duale noted that traditional medicine remains deeply rooted in African communities, cultures, indigenous knowledge, and biodiversity, adding that it has continued to be widely used because of its accessibility, affordability and acceptability.

"Traditional medicine is not merely a record of our past. It is a living health resource with the potential to contribute to prevention, treatment, innovation, and national development," the CS stated.

He stressed that traditional health interventions offered to Kenyans must be safe, effective and supported by scientific evidence.

"Our duty is to preserve what is valuable, but we must also ensure that every intervention offered to the public within the healthcare system is safe, effective, and supported by evidence," Duale said.

Traditional Medicine Practitioners Exhibitors displaying alternative medicine at Kenya Medical Research Institute during the celebration of African Traditional Medicine Day in Nairobi.

The CS said research on traditional medicine should move beyond documentation to product development, clinical evidence, quality assurance, pharmacovigilance, and responsible commercialisation and called for the protection of intellectual property rights and fair sharing of benefits with communities and individuals who have preserved indigenous knowledge over generations.

Equally, Duale maintained that regulation would remain critical in protecting patients, calling for clear standards on practitioner training, registration and licensing, quality standards for products, reliable laboratories, and effective surveillance of adverse events.

He cited India and China as countries from which Kenya can draw lessons in developing and integrating traditional medicine into the formal healthcare system.

At the same time, the State Department for Medical Services Principal Secretary (PS) Dr. Ouma Oluga noted that KEMRI had a critical role in generating scientific evidence on the effectiveness and risks associated with traditional and alternative medicines.

He observed that although traditional and alternative medicines are widely used in communities, there is a need for stronger clinical research to establish their efficacy and potential risks.

MTRH engage with global pharmaceutical giant Pfizer in healthcare transformation

BY MAURICE ALUDA (KNA)

Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) in partnership with Pfizer is working towards strengthening cancer care and medical innovation.

MTRH Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Philip Kirwa, underscored the critical role played by global partnerships in transforming patients' healthcare.

"Partnerships with global pharmaceutical companies are not just beneficial—they are essential in supporting our efforts to improve patient care, particularly in specialized areas such as cancer treatment," Dr. Kirwa said.

The CEO noted that the engagement would open new spheres for collaboration that will directly impact the lives of patients, many of whom he said travel from across the region to access MTRH services.

Dr. Kirwa made the remarks when he received Dr. Albert Bourla, the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the global pharmaceutical giant Pfizer, who paid a visit to the facility.

Dr. Kirwa underscored the potential for joint initiatives in medical research, innovation, and capacity building, noting that such collaborations would accelerate the adoption of advanced healthcare technologies and essential medicines.

MTRH CEO noted that the visit underscored a shared vision between the public health sector and global pharmaceutical companies to advance cancer care, medical research, and access to essential medicines.

Dr. Kirwa said MTRH is one of Kenya's largest referral hospitals, and continues to position itself as a regional hub for specialized care, with oncology and pathology among its flagship services.

He stressed that the Hospital's leadership remains committed to forging strategic alliances that enhances its capacity to deliver world-class healthcare.

Dr. Bourla said the visit is marking a significant step in deepening the company's partnership with Kenya's healthcare sector.

Dr. Albert Bourla, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of global pharmaceutical giant Pfizer (centre) during a visit to MTRH Eldoret

Pfizer CEO reaffirmed the company's dedication to advancing healthcare across Africa, highlighting the importance of public-private partnerships in addressing some of the continent's most pressing health challenges.

"Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital is a beacon of hope for millions of people in this region," Dr. Bourla noted.

"Our visit here is a testament to Pfizer's commitment to working alongside Kenyan healthcare leaders to expand access to life-saving treatments, foster medical innovation, and ensure that no patient is left behind in the fight against cancer and other serious illnesses," he emphasized.

Dr. Bourla echoed these sentiments, reaffirming Pfizer's dedication to advancing healthcare across Africa, saying that the company will identifying collaborative opportunities to enhance access to quality healthcare, particularly for patients battling cancer and other complex diseases.

"Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital is a beacon of hope for millions of people in this region," said Dr. Bourla.

"Our visit here is a testament to Pfizer's commitment to working alongside Kenyan healthcare leaders to expand access to life-saving treatments, foster medical innovation, and ensure that no patient is left behind in the fight against cancer and other serious illnesses," he emphasized.

The visit underscored a shared vision between the public health sector and global pharmaceutical companies to advance cancer care, medical research, and access to essential medicines.

CS Kabogo urges private investors to tap into Kenya's digital future

The Government's digital transformation agenda is creating new investment opportunities across fibre and wireless connectivity, data centres, cloud computing,artificial intelligence, digital services and business process outsourcing .

BY HANIFA TAMIM (PCO)

Kenya is positioning its digital economy as a key driver of the country's next phase of economic growth.

Consequently, the Government is calling for increased private capital investment in digital infrastructure, technology companies and innovation.

Speaking at the 10th Annual East Africa Private Capital Association (EAPCA) Conference, Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Information, Communications and the Digital Economy, William Kabogo, said Kenya offers significant opportunities for investors seeking exposure to the continent's rapidly expanding digital market.

Kabogo noted the country's economic growth of 4.6 per cent in 2025 and 5.3 per cent in the first quarter of 2026.

He said the ICT sector has grown at an average rate of about 10.8 per cent annually over the past decade.

The Cabinet Secretary said the Government's digital transformation agenda is creating new investment opportunities across fibre and wireless connectivity, data centres, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, digital services and business process outsourcing (BPO).

He noted that BPO, which was virtually non-existent 15 years ago, generated about US$272 million in the previous year and created more than 40,000 jobs.

"The Government is expanding digital infrastructure through the Digital Superhighway Programme, alongside efforts to increase connectivity, Wi-Fi access and the availability of government services online," he said

However, Kabogo acknowledged that gaps remain in connectivity, computing capacity, energy, digital skills and growth capital, particularly for companies that have developed products and are ready to scale.

The CS further called for stronger collaboration between the Government, private investors and institutional capital to ensure that Kenyan businesses can access financing and successfully expand into regional and global markets.

He highlighted Kenya's evolving investment environment, including reforms affecting technology companies, tax incentives for export services and measures aimed at improving the predictability of regulatory approvals.

Kabogo also pointed to the growing potential of African capital to finance African businesses, urging investors to support companies capable of serving the continent's 1.4 billion people and participating in the emerging African digital single market.

He reaffirmed the Government's commitment to working with investors, regulators and industry players to create a predictable policy environment and position Kenya as a leading hub for digital investment and innovation in Africa.

Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communications and the Digital Economy William Kabogo during the 10th Annual East Africa Private Capital Association Conference.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

REVIVAL OF COFFEE THROUGH CO-OP SOCIETIES

NEW KENYA PLANTERS CO-OPERATIVE UNION

NEW KENYA PLANTERS COOPERATIVE UNION PLC

NATIONAL COFFEE REVIVAL PROGRAMME

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

New Kenya Planters Cooperative Union (New KPCU PLC) in collaboration with the Ministry of Cooperatives and MSMEs Development, invites passionate community rooted individuals to join an intensive Coffee Extension Champions Training Program under the revival of coffee through cooperative societies Campaign. This initiative aims to expand coffee production within the Cooperative Movement from 51,852 MT to 151,000 MT.

Program: Coffee Extension Training Program (Ward level Extension Champions)

Number Required: 1,000 Champions

Location: Listed Wards within the following Coffee-growing Counties (Two positions available per ward: one formale and one for female applicants)

COUNTY	WARD
Baringo	Kabarnet Ward, Ewalel Chapchap,Tenges ,Saimo Soi,Bartabwa, Emining, Churo, Ravine, Mochongoi
Bomet	Kipreres, Silibwet Township, Ndaraweta, Chesoen, Chebunyo, Sigor, Boito
Bungoma	Bukembe East, East Sang'alo, West Sang'alo, Maraka, Sitikho, Matulo, Misikhu, West Nalondo, Mukuyuni, Namwela, Malakisi/South Kulisiru, Lwandanyi, Ndalu, Soysambu/Mitua, Kibingei, Kamukuywa, Chesikaki, Bukembe West, Khalaba, Kabula, Kimaeti, West Bukusu, Mihuu, Maeni
Busia	Nangina, Burumba, Elugulu, Kingandole, Namboboto Nambuku, Matayos South, Angurai North, Mayenje, Amukura East, Marachi East, Bukhayo North/Walatsi, Nambale Township, Bwiri, Busibwabo, Bunyala Central, Marachi West, Marachi North, Bukhayo East, Agenga/Nanguba , Bunyala South, Angurai South, Ang'Urai East, Bukhayo Central, Bunyala West, Bunyala Central, Bunyala North
Elgeyo Marakwet	Arror, Cherangany, Embobut/Embolot, Kaptarakwa,Sengwer, Lelan, Moiben Kuserwo Tambach
Embu	Kithimu, Nginda, Mbeti North, Gaturi South, Gaturi North, Central, Kyeni North, Kyeni South, Mbeti South, Evurori
Homa Bay	Kabondo West, West Kamagak, Kakwago, West Kasipul, West Gema, South Kabuoch
Kakamega	Sinoko, Chekalini, Manda Shivanga, Butali Chegulo, Shirugu Mugai, West Kabras, Chemuche, East Kabras, Bunyala East, Bunyala West, Eshinoyi/Eshikomari/Esumeyia, Butsotso Central, Shieywe, Idakho Central, Idakho East, Isukha North, Mumias Central, Mumias North, Shianda/Marenyo, Marama South, Marama Central, Kisa East, Likuyani, Nzoia, Lumakanda, Mautuma, Lugari, Lwandeti, Chevaywa, Bunyala Central, Butsotso South,Butsotso East, Mahiakalo, Shirere, Idakho North, Idakho South, Isukha West, Isukha South, Murhanda, Isukha Central, Isukha East, Malaha/Isongo/Makunga, Lusheya/Lubinu, East Wanga, Musanda, Etenje, Myoni, Namamali, Koyonzo, Kholera, Khalaba, Marama North, Kisa Central, Kisa West, Kisa North
Kajiado	Ewuaso Oo Nkidong'I, Entarara, Rombo, Oloolua
Kericho	Kapsaos, Cheptororiet/Seretut, Kapkatet, Soliat, Chepseon
Kiambu	Lari, Kijabe, Cianda, Gitothua, Ngenda, Ndarugo, Kiamwangi, Kalimoni, Kiganjo, Ikinu, Ting'ang'a, Ndumberi, Kabete, Kamburu, Nyanduma
Kirinyaga	Kangai, Gathigiriri, Njukiini, Kareti, Mutira, Kanyekiini, Inoi, Murinduko, Nyangati
Kisii	Marani, Kiogoro, Bassi
Kisumu	Muhoroni/Koru, West Kisumu, Manyatta B, Railways
Laikipia	Tigithi, Marmanet, Mokogoto,Segera, Nanyuki, Rumuruti, Umande, Salama, Ngobit, Thingithu
Machakos	Kathiani Central, Mitaboni , Lower Kaewa/Kaani, Kangundo West , Matungulu East, Kyeleni, Mua Mumbuni North, Kalama, Kola, Upper Kaewa/Iveti, Kangundo North, Kangundo East, Matungulu North, Mutituni, Mwala , Masii,
Makueni	Mukaa/Kitaingo, Mbooni, Kithungo/Kitundu, Ilima, Kilungu, Nzaui/Kilili/Kalamba, Tulimani , Ukia Kasikeu, Kiima Kiu/Kalanzoni, Mbitini
Meru	Kianjai, Athwana, Muthara, Maua, Mitunguu, Kiago, Nyaki East, Nyaki West, Ruiri/Rwarera, Mbeu Akithi, Kiguchwa, Mikinduri , Thangatha, Kangeta, Njia, Igembe East, Athiru Ruujine, Akachiu, Kanuni, Kiegui, Antobuchiu, Athiru, Athiru Gaiti
Migori	Ntimaru east, Nyabasi west, South Kanyaamkago, Bukira Central, Tagare, Nyami sense/Komosoko, Central Kamagamba, Gokachola, Suna Central, South Kanyamkago
Muranga	Kanyekiini, Muguru, Rwathi, Gitugi, Kamacharia, Mugoiri, Mbiri, Kahumbu, Kangari, Mugumoini, Kithumbuini, Kariara, I Haraka, Ithiru , Gaturi
Nairobi	Roysambu, Kahawa West
Nakuru	Kabazi Ward, Nakuru East, Njoro Ward, Visoi Ward, Keringet Ward, Lare Ward, Soin Ward, Kabatini Ward, Kiamaina Ward, Bahati Ward
Nandi	Kilibwoni, Kiptuya, Kapchorua, Kapkangani, Chepkunyuk, Olesos, Kaptel, Kebulonik, Kameloi, Ndalat, Kabiyet, Kipkaren, Kabisaga
Narok	Mogondo, Kapsasian, Ilmotiok, Olmekenyu, Sonoo, Enosoen, Shankoe, Lolgorian, Mara, Sogoo Ololunga, Angata, Keiyan, Olokurto, Nkereta
Nyamira	Magombo , Kemera

COUNTY	WARD
Nyandarua	Leshau Pondo, Githioro, Gathanji, Ndaragwa Central, Mirangine, Kanjuri,
Nyeri	Karima, Ruguru, Konyu, Kirimikuyu, Karatina, Kiganjo, Gatitu, Kamakwa, Mukurweini East/Central, Wamagana, Aguthi, Magutu , Iriani, Ruringu , Rware, Muthiga, RiAini, Karima, Gikondi, Rugi, Dedan Kimathi
Siaya	West Gem, Central Gem, East Gem, Ugunja, Sitindi, Sigomere, North Ugenya , West Uyoma, West Asembo, North Sakwa, West Sakwa, Siaya Township, North Alego, Central Alego, West Alego, Usonga, Yala Township, South Gem, East Ugenya, West Ugenya, Ukwala, South Uyoma, North Uyoma, East Asembo, Yimbo East, West Yimbo, Central Sakwa, South Sakwa
Taita Taveta	Wundanyi/Mbale, Wusi/Kishamba, Werugha, Mghange , Chawia, Mrughua, Rong'E, Bura, Wumingu/Kishushe
Tharaka Nithi	Muthambi, Karingani, Nkondi, Ganga
Trans Nzoia	Nabiswa Ward, Hospital Ward, Matumbei, Kaplamai Ward, Sitatunga,Keiyo, Chepsiro, Motosiet, Kinyoro, Machewa, Kapomboi, Tiwani.
Uasin Gishu	Kamagut, Ngeria, Kapseret, Kapkures, Moi'S Bridge, Ngenyilel, Tarakwa

Terms: Sponsored Training with Self-Employment Opportunity Post-Training

Training Details:

- **Venue:** Coffee Research Institute and designated County Training Centers.
- **Duration:** Two weeks of intensive theory and practical training.
- **Certification:** Certificate of Completion issued jointly by New KPCU and the Coffee Research Institute.
- **Cost:** Training is fully sponsored. Trainees will cater for their own transport.

Roles After Training: Upon successful completion, trained Extension Champions will:

- Provide private extension services to farmers in their wards.
- Train farmers on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) to boost yields.
- Support rehabilitation of abandoned or underperforming coffee farms.
- Promote adoption of quality planting materials supplied through the program.
- Mobilize and organize farmers into cooperatives or farmer groups.
- Assist farmers with record-keeping crop monitoring and basic farm management.

How Trainees will Earn from Services

Extension Champions will levy farmers a reasonable service fee agreed upon at the ward level through cooper-atives or farmer groups and approved by the Standing County Technical Committee. Champions will work with cooperatives to streamline collection of service fees through cooperative deductions or mobile money payments, ensuring transparency and accountability. Champions are encouraged to enter into formal service agreements with cooperatives or farmer groups.

Eligibility: Applications Must:

1. Hold a certificate, Diploma or Degree in Agriculture, Agribusiness, Horticulture, Agriculture Economics, or related fields.
2. Be residents of the ward they wish to serve (proof required).
3. Demonstrate passion for transforming rural livelihoods through sustainable coffee farming.
4. Have effective communication and teamwork skills.
5. Not have been previously trained under this program

Added Advantage

Previous experience in coffee farming, cooperatives, or agricultural extension Familiarity with digital tools for data collection

Knowledge of coffee agronomy and post-harvest techniques

Application Requirements: Submit:

1. Detailed CV
2. Copies of academic and professional certificates
3. Copy of National ID and Proof of ward residency
4. Brief cover letter indicating the ward you wish to serve.

How to apply: Interested persons who meet the requirements should submit their application in a sealed envelope, through the post office, email to **recruitment@newkpcuplc.go.ke**, or hand delivery, together with a copy of a detailed CV, copies of academic certificates, national identity card and tele-phone contacts of three refer-ees, to reach the Company by **1700hrs on Friday, 25th September 2026. (East African Time)**

The application should be addressed to:

THE MANAGING DIRECTOR
NEW KENYA PLANTERS CO-OPERATIVE UNION
P O BOX 59638 – 00200, WAKULIMA HOUSE, HAILE SELASSIE AVENUE, NAIROBI

Further enquiries can be sought by emailing: enquiries@newkpcuplc.go.ke/careers. Details of the post can also be accessed on our official website www.newkpcuplc.go.ke/careers.

Note: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Youth (18 -35 years) and people with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply.

KENYA VISION 2030

TVET key to economic breakthrough–Ogamba

The government has expanded access, reformed the curricula and strengthened the link between training and the workplace, to produce graduates who can do the work that the economy requires and who can create opportunities where none exists.

BY ALICE WANJIRU (KNA)

Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) is no longer a second-choice pathway but the strategic lane to industrialization, job creation and inclusive growth.

The Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Education, Migos Ogamba said under the Bottom-up Economic and Transformation Agenda (BETA), TVETs are no longer being treated as a residual option but a central pillar of the country's economic blueprint.

Speaking when he presided over the first graduation of Kipsoen National Polytechnic in Keiyo North Sub-county, the CS said Kenya, being a developing country requires technicians, artisans, innovators and entrepreneurs who can build, maintain, design, programme, manufacture and create value.

The CS said the government had expanded access, reformed the curricula and strengthened the link between training and the workplace, to produce graduates who can do the work that the economy requires and who can create opportunities where none exists.

He challenged the 983 students who graduated not to measure their success by the jobs that they will secure, but by the problems they will solve and the value they will create, saying the country still faces challenges in agriculture, construction, manufacturing, energy, ICT, transport and the creative economy.

The CS said each of the challenges is an opening for a skilled person with an initiative.

He reiterated that the success of a National polytechnic is measured by the enterprises started, innovations commercialised, jobs created and communities strengthened.

"Do not wait for perfect conditions, start where you are with what you have, practice honesty, invest in continuous learning and embrace integrity, this will open doors that credentials may not," he said.

Education Cabinet Secretary, Migos Ogamba, during the 1st Graduation Ceremony of Kipsoen National Polytechnic in Keiyo North, Elgeyo Marakwet County.

Ogamba said under the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC), training programmes have been modularized into shorter units so that learners can acquire market skills faster and progress flexibly.

He added that the policy of integrating industry into the training process ensures that students spend meaningful time in the real workplace.

The CS said recognition of prior learning is opening a formal pathway for the many Kenyans who have acquired skills informally.

He added that equipment in TVETs have been upgraded, more trainers recruited and partnerships with industries are being deepened across the country.

Following the investment by the government, the CS

Counties urged to establish air data management systems

A section of participants at a workshop on establishing clear air quality thresholds for advisories and warnings, identifying vulnerable and target groups, and defining appropriate actions for different levels of air quality risk.

BY ESTHER MWANGI (KNA)

County governments have been urged to install air quality monitoring gadgets to get timely data to tackle rising air pollution.

The Director of Research and Extension at Egerton University Professor George Owuor advised devolved units to place specialized devices at various spots in their localities that utilize high resolution artificial intelligence and make data accessible to members of the public.

Professor Owuor was speaking at the Institution's Njoro Main Campus when he inaugurated a four-day workshop on establishing clear air quality thresholds for advisories and warnings, identifying vulnerable and target groups, and defining appropriate actions for different levels of air quality risk.

Professor Owuor called for stronger collaboration among universities, county governments, industries, communities and development partners, and emphasized the need for collective action in realizing sustainable solutions in improving air quality.

The workshop sponsored by RESPIRA explored development of an integrated, sustainable and user-friendly air quality forecasting, visualization and early-warning system.

RESPIRA is a global organization that promotes intelligent Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) management systems that use artificial intelligence to improve energy efficiency, thermal comfort and air quality in buildings and infrastructures.

Professor Owuor indicated that Egerton University is positioning itself to work with a team from RESPIRA in conducting research to assess the air quality across the devolved unit and mapping out hotspot zones that contribute significantly to pollution levels including heavy traffic routes, densely populated neighborhoods, Giotto waste dumping site and industrial zones.

The workshop brought together project partners and stakeholders to deliberate on how existing air quality monitoring infrastructure, scientific expertise, forecasting models, visualization tools and communication platforms can be strengthened and connected to support an operational national air quality forecasting and early-warning service.

The four-day workshop brought together ward ambassadors, students, representatives from the Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD), county and city officials, health practitioners, traders, planners, media representatives and other project partners.

Participants emphasized that technical air quality data must be translated into clear, practical and actionable information that can support public health, decision-making and community preparedness.

A key recommendation was to integrate air quality forecasting into the existing operational framework of the Kenya Meteorological Department, rather than creating a new parallel system. This approach will build on KMD's established forecasting and communication structures while connecting them with existing monitoring infrastructure, scientific expertise and forecasting models.

The experts also emphasized the need to strengthen data-sharing arrangements and develop Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) to support the smooth exchange of information between monitoring platforms and KMD systems. Strong data quality assurance, quality control and scientific validation will be essential to ensure that forecasts and warnings are reliable and suitable for operational use.

The workshop further highlighted the importance of building technical capacity in air quality modelling and forecasting, while developing a sustainable and locally manageable visualization and dashboard system.

Participants also called for clear institutional responsibilities for data management, forecasting, visualization and dissemination. The discussions recognized the potential value of integrating scientific information with relevant indigenous and community-based knowledge to improve the relevance and usefulness of forecasts, particularly at the community level.

According to Professor Owuor there was a need to enhance the accuracy of air quality forecasting and establish a central data center for continuous air quality monitoring, aligning with Kenya's commitment to environmental sustainability and public health protection.

Egerton University has been appointed to host the RESPIRA Sense-Making facility with Professor Wilkister Nyaora Moturi and Dr Oscar Odonde, both from the Faculty of Environmental Science and Resource Development as project lead while the Lead Researcher is Dr Nick Rahier, a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology at KU Leuven/Ghent University.

Professor Moturi indicated that lack of actionable data and insights has made it difficult to track progress or lack of progress.

She explained that by providing accurate, real-time data on air quality, monitoring sites can serve as the foundation upon which county governments can build more effective policies and interventions.

"With reliable data, Kenya will be better positioned to identify pollution hotspots, track pollution trends, and take swift action to reduce harmful emissions," she said.

The Don expressed optimism that through devolved units can set up systems that will be able monitor air quality, compile a pollutant emission inventory, model and predict air quality trends, set and enforce air quality standards and put in place the relevant legislative and administrative frameworks and also be able to provide regular on-line and real time air quality reports, much like weather reports of the Kenya Meteorological Department.

She called for collaborative efforts to tackle air pollution in Kenya adding that addressing air pollution is not only a government mandate but of all stakeholders.

She said addressing air pollution was not solely the responsibility of the government or a handful of institutions and called for the engagement and participation of all stakeholders.

Professor Moturi advised county administrations to prioritize in curbing air pollution and include equipping cities with its air quality monitoring network and air quality management system,

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TAITA TAVETA UNIVERSITY

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR VACANCIES SEPTEMBER, 2026

Taita Taveta University (TTU) is a dynamic Public University in Kenya chartered in 2016. It is strategically located about 8 kilometers off the Nairobi – Mombasa highway near Voi Town, in the scenic Taita Taveta County. TTU, the Home of Ideas, is a strategic player in national and regional development and an Academic Centre of Excellence in Mining Engineering, Agriculture, Earth and Environmental Sciences, Business, Economics and Social Sciences, Education, Science and Informatics; with a special focus on Mining and Mineral Processing Engineering. To further enhance our capacity in the delivery of high-quality education, training, research, innovation and community outreach, the University is seeking to recruit suitably qualified and experienced individual(s) to fill the following positions:

A. SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE, EARTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES (SAEES)

1.	**PROFESSOR (GRADE 15)** in Agriculture/Ecology/Environmental Sciences and Natural Resource Management.	**REF NO.** TTU/AC/P/AEN/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
2.	**SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13)** in Zoology/ Animal Science.	**REF. NO.** TTU/AC/SL/ZA/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
3.	**TECHNOLOGIST III (GRADE 6)** in Agriculture.	**REF NO:** TTU/AD/TIII/01/09/2026	One [1] Post

B. SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND INFORMATICS (SSI)

1.	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (GRADE 14) in Computer Science.	**REF NO.** TTU/AC/AP/CS/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
2.	SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13) in Computer Science.	**REF. NO.** TTU/AC/SL/CS/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
3.	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (GRADE 14) in Cyber Security.	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/AP/CY/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
4.	SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13) in Cyber Security.	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/SL/CY/01/09/2026	One [1] Post

C. SCHOOL OF EDUCATION (SoE)

1.	**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (GRADE 14)** in Educational Administration.	**REF NO.** TTU/AC/AP/EA/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
2.	**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (GRADE 14)/ SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13)** in Educational Psychology (Applicants with specialization in psychometrics will have an added advantage).	**REF. NO.** TTU/AC/AP/SL/EP/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
3.	**LECTURER (GRADE 12)** in Educational Psychology **(Re-advertisement)**:	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/L/EP/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
4.	**TUTORIAL FELLOW (GRADE 11)** in the following discipline areas:		
	a) Comparative and International Education	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/TF/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
	b) Phailosophy of Education	**REF. NO.** TTU/AC/TF/02/09/2026	One [1] Post
	c) Educational Psychology	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/TF/03/09/2026	One [1] Post

D. SCHOOL OF MINES AND ENGINEERING (SME)

1.	SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13)/LECTURER (GRADE 12) in Civil Engineering in the following discipline areas:		
	a) Transportation Engineering	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/CEE/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
	b) Public Health Engineering	**REF. NO.** TTU/AC/CEE/02/09/2026	One [1] Post
	c) Structural Engineering	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/CEE/03/09/2026	One [1] Post
2.	SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13)/LECTURER (GRADE 12) in Mechanical Engineering in the following discipline areas:		
	a) Thermo-Fluids Engineering	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/ME/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
	b) Design and Manufacturing Engineering	**REF. NO.** TTU/AC/ME/02/09/2026	One [1] Post
	c) Materials and Micro-Nano Engineering	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/ME/03/09/2026	One [1] Post
3.	SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13)/LECTURER (GRADE 12) in Petroleum Engineering.	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/PE/01/09/2026	One [1] Post

E. SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, ECONOMICS & SOCIAL SCIENCES (SBESS)

1.	**SENIOR LECTURER (GRADE 13)/LECTURER (GRADE 12)** in the following discipline areas:		
	a) Public Administration and Policy	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/PAP/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
	b) Maritime and Shipping Management	**REF. NO.** TTU/AC/MS/01/09/2026	One [1] Post
	c) Tourism Development and Management	**REF NO:** TTU/AC/TDM/01/09/2026	One [1] Post

F. DIRECTORATE OF ADMINISTRATION, PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (D-APD)

1.	ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT II (GRADE 8)	**REF NO.** TTU/AD/AAII/03/09/2026	Three [3] Posts

TERMS OF SERVICE

The Terms of Service for the positions shall be on Permanent and Pensionable Terms. However, the Terms of Service for the Position of Tutorial Fellow shall be on a three (3) year contract renewable once, subject to performance and progress in attainment of a PhD, for additional three years during which time he/she should have obtained a PhD. The successful candidates will be entitled to applicable allowances as approved by the University Council.

MODE OF APPLICATION

1. Send soft copy application to the email address: **dvc-afp@ttu.ac.ke** and a hard copy to the address below;
   The Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration, Finance & Planning)
   Taita Taveta University
   P. O. Box 635 – (80300), VOI
2. Applicants should specify the position applied for and quote the reference number on both the envelope and the application letter.
3. The application, in the prescribed modes, must be received by **28th September, 2026.**

For more details about the vacancies above and mode of application, refer to the website; **https://www.ttu.ac.ke/careers/**

PCF

POLICYHOLDERS COMPENSATION FUND

Dhamana ya Bima Yako

EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Policyholders Compensation Fund (PCF) is a State Corporation under The National established under Section 179 of the Insurance Act (Cap 487) and operationalized through Legal Notice 105 of 2004. The Fund was established for the primary purpose of providing compensation to claimants of an insurer that has been placed under statutory management or whose license has been cancelled and for the secondary purpose of increasing the general public's confidence in the insurance sector.

The Fund is seeking to recruit qualified and competent individuals to fill the following vacant positions:

S/No.	Job Ref. No.	Designation	Job Grade	No. of Posts
1.	PCF/01/2026/27	Deputy Director, Insurance Services	PCF3	1
2.	PCF/02/2026/27	Driver	PCF9	1
3	PCF/03/2026/27	Young Professional – Internal Audit	-	1

Terms of Service

1. Deputy Director, Insurance Services - Five (5) year contract renewable subject to performance and retirement age.
2. Driver – Permanent and Pensionable.
3. Young Professional, Internal Audit - One (1) year contract.

Application

1. Interested candidates are encouraged to visit our website **www.pcf.go.ke/careers** for detailed job\ descriptions, person specifications and application procedure.
2. All applications must be received on or before **Monday 28th September 2026.**
3. PCF is an equal opportunity employer. Canvassing of any kind will lead to automatic disqualification. Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities are encouraged to apply.
4. PCF does **NOT** charge any fee in its recruitment process.
5. Only Shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

SOUTH EASTERN KENYA UNIVERSITY

ARID TO GREEN

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

South Eastern Kenya University invites applications from suitably qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

A. DIVISION OF ACADEMIC, RESEARCH AND INNOVATION (ARI)

SNO	VACANCIES	GRADE	DEPARTMENT	REF	POSITIONS
1.	Senior Lecturer	Grade 5A	Department of Sociology, Anthropology & Community Development, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Criminology & Social Justice Specialization	SEKU/ADV/AC/01/08/2025	1 Position – *Re-Advertisement.*
2.	Lecturer	Grade 6A	Department of Civil, Construction and Environmental Engineering, School of Engineering and Technology – Geotechnical/ Structural Engineering Specialization	SEKU/ADV/AC/02/08/2025	1 Position – *Re-Advertisement.*
3.	Senior Lecturer	Grade 5A	Department of Agricultural Sciences, School of Agriculture, Water, Environment and Natural Resources (SAWENR), Agricultural Economics Specialization	SEKU/ADV/AC/03/08/2026	1 Position
4.	Senior Lecturer	Grade 5A	Department of Private Law, School of Law – Private Law Specialization	SEKU/ADV/AC/04/08/2026	1 Position
5.	Senior Lecturer	Grade 5A	Department of Sociology Anthropology and Community Development, School of Humanities and Social Sciences – Hospitality Specialization	SEKU/ADV/AC/05/08/2026	1 Position
6.	Senior Lecturer	Grade 5A	Department of Public Health, School of Health Sciences, Epidemiology & Statistics Specialization	SEKU/ADV/AC/06/08/2026	1 Position
7.	Senior Lecturer	Grade 5A	Department of Nursing Sciences, School of Health Sciences, Community Health Nursing Specialization	SEKU/ADV/AC/07/08/2026	1 Position

NB:

1. Please visit our website **www.seku.ac.ke** for more details on the above vacancies and the application procedure. The deadline for submitting application is **Tuesday, 29th September, 2026.** Applications received after this date will not be considered.
2. Duly shortlisted candidates will be contacted.
3. Canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification.
4. SEKU is an equal opportunity employer and female candidates, persons living with disabilities, minority groups and those from marginalized are encouraged to apply.

ARID TO GREEN .... TRANSFORMING LIVES

ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED

Homa Bay opens the first oncology centre

The centre will provide chemotherapy and other oncology services, with plans already underway to progressively introduce additional specialized services. This will reduce referrals to hospitals outside Homa Bay, noting that the county currently sends between 15 and 20 cancer patients every week to specialized treatment centres in other regions

BY SITNA OMAR (KNA)

The County Government of Homa Bay has launched a new oncology centre, marking a major milestone in the county's efforts to decentralise cancer treatment and improve access to specialised healthcare services.

Governor Gladys Wanga, who officially opened the Mama Phoebe Asiyo Oncology Centre at Homa Bay County Teaching and Referral Hospital, said the initiative aims at bringing cancer diagnosis and treatment services closer to residents and reducing the the county.

"For too long, a cancer diagnosis has meant more than the burden of illness. For many families, it has also meant long and costly journeys outside the county in search of specialised care, separation from loved ones, loss of income and, in many cases, the difficult emotional burden of navigating an unfamiliar health system," Wanga said.

The oncology centre was established through a partnership between the Homa Bay County Government and the East Africa Comprehensive Women Cancer Project, i

The newly launched Mama Phoebe Asiyo Centre in Homa Bay County. The centre will bring cancer diagnosis and treatment closer to the residents. Photo/ Sitnar Omar.

to hospitals outside Homa Bay, noting that the county currently sends between 15 and 20 cancer patients every week to specialized treatment centres in other regions.

chemotherapy, but this is only the beginning. Our goal is to build a comprehensive cancer treatment centre where residents can access all essential oncology services without leaving Homa Bay," Wanga said.

The county's long-term goal is to establish a comprehensive cancer treatment centre capable of providing services including radiotherapy and other cancer treatment services.

The governor assured residents that the quality of care provided at the centre would meet the same standards offered at major referral facilities outside Homa Bay.

She challenged the medical team to ensure every patient who visits the centre receives the treatment, counselling, encouragement and the support they require.

"We believe in you. We believe in your commitment, in your conviction that no person who comes to this facility will leave without getting the help needed," Wanga said.

Wanga said the county's cancer strategy would not focus solely on treatment but would also emphasize prevention, screening and early detection.

KISII UNIVERSITY

TENDER NOTICE

Kisii University was chartered in February 2013. It is headquartered in Kisii town, some 1.5 kilometers away from the town center

The University invites tenders for:

S/ No.	TENDER NUMBER	TENDER DESCRIPTION	ELIGIBILITY	TENDER CLOSING DATE AND TIME
1.	KSU/T/2/2026-2027	TENDER FOR PROVISION OF GROUP LIFE AND PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE COVER	OPEN	17TH SEPTEMBER 2026 TIME: 11.30A.M
2.	KSU/T/3/2026-2027	TENDER FOR PROVISION OF GENERAL INSURANCE COVER	OPEN	17TH SEPTEMBER 2026 TIME: 11.30A.M

To download the tender documents, Visit Kisii University website (**www.kisiiuniversity.ac.ke**) or **www.tenders.go.ke**. Youth, Women and Persons with disabilities are encouraged to apply. Original and a copy of tape bound dully filled and paginated tender documents to be enclosed in plain sealed envelopes marked with tender number and be deposited in the Tender Box at Kisii University main campus administration block and shall be addressed to:

Vice Chancellor Kisii University
P.O BOX 408-40200 KISII

MINISTRY OF INVESTMENTS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR INDUSTRY

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE DRAFT NATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION POLICY

The Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry in collaboration with relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies has developed a draft National Industrialization Policy, 2026 to guide the development of the Industrialization Transformation in Kenya. The policy also aims to make Industrialization a major engine of economic growth and employment by revitalize and enhance the competitiveness and sustainability of industrial sector in Kenya and within the region.

Pursuant to Article 10(2) (a) of the Constitution of Kenya, that provides for National Values and Principles of Governance including participation of the people, the Ministry through this Notice, hereby invites interested members of the public and stakeholders to give their comments on the draft National Industrialization Policy during the public participation forums which shall be held from 9.00 a.m-12.00 noon at the following venues and dates;

DATE	COUNTIES	VENUE
Monday 12nd October 2026	Laikipia, Samburu, Isiolo and Marsabit	Isiolo Catholic Pastoral Center-Isiolo
	Bomet, Nyamira, Kisii and Narok	Kisii Agricultural Training Center Hall - Kisii
	Garissa, Wajir and Mandera	Government Guest House – Garissa
Tuesday 13th October 2026	Tharaka Nithi, Meru and Embu	Kamundi Hall - Meru
	Tana River, Kilifi and Lamu	Takaye Social Hall – Malindi
	Homa Bay, Kisumu, Siaya and Migori	Mama Grace Onyango Cultural and Social Center (Formerly Kisumu Social Center) - Kisumu
Wednesday 14th October 2026	Nyeri, Nyandarua, Kirinyaga, Murang'a	Nyeri Cultural Center - Nyeri
	Kwale and Mombasa	Tononoka Social Hall - Mombasa
	Busia, Bungoma, Vihiga and Kakamega	Kenya Red Cross Society Hall, Kanduyi-Bungoma
Thursday 15th October 2026	Nakuru, Kericho and Baringo	Kenya National Library Services – Nakuru
	Taita Taveta	Dan Mwanzo Hall – Voi
	Trans-Nzoia and West Pokot	Kitale Social Hall – Kitale
Friday 16th October 2026	Machakos, Kitui and Makueni	Wote Social Hall – Wote
	Turkana	Lodwar Vocational Training Centre – Lodwar
	Uasin Gishu, Nandi and Elgeyo Marakwet	Home Craft Centre– Pioneer Eldoret
Tuesday 20th October 2026	Nairobi, Kajiado and Kiambu	Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD)– Nairobi

Members of the Public and Stakeholders may also send their comments and feedback through written submissions using the "Draft National Industrialization Policy, 2026 Memorandum Submission Template" available at **www.industrialization.go.ke/downloads** to the following email address **nip@industrialization.go.ke** or through **P.O BOX 30418-00100** on or before **Friday 23rd October, 2026**. The Draft National Industrialization Policy may be downloaded from website **www.industrialization.go.ke/downloads**.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF GENDER, CULTURE AND CHILDREN SERVICES

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN SERVICES

STREET FAMILIES REHABILITATION TRUST FUND

ANNOUNCEMENT

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR FUNDING TOWARDS STREET FAMILIES REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES FINANCIAL YEAR 2026/2027

Background Information

Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund (SFRTF) was established on 11th March, 2003 through a Gazette Notice No. 1558, to address the concerns of all homeless, destitute and vulnerable persons in urban areas. It was registered as a body Corporate in August, 2010 under the Trustees (Perpetual Succession Act) CAP 164 Laws of Kenya.

Mandate and Functions of SFRTF

The mandate of SFRTF includes coordinating rehabilitation activities for street families; conducting public education on street families issues; mobilizing resources and fundraising as well as receiving donations and funding street families rehabilitation programmes; managing donations for the rehabilitation of street families through a trust fund; monitoring expenditure and disbursement of donations; and advising the government and other relevant agencies on matters relating to rehabilitation of street families.

To enable the fund realize its vision, mission and mandate, interested organizations and institutions are invited to apply for this year's SFRTF grant.

Objectives of the grants

The objective of the grant is to facilitate rehabilitation programmes for street families with an aim of reintegrating them back to the community. The ultimate goal is to have a country free of street families.

The programs should be able to address these basic areas:

- Prevent families from disintegrating and going to the streets
- Rescue street families from the streets situation
- Protect street families from all forms of exploitation of labor and violence, including trafficking.
- Provide health services to street families in the rehabilitation process or work in partnership with government hospitals to provide the same.
- Restoring and / or strengthening the relationship between children and their families.
- Preparation and implementation of reintegration of the child into a family and / or close to the family environment.
- Connect the beneficiaries to schools, skills training or livelihood opportunities as part of re-socialization and preventions

Expected Outcome

- The grant to practically impact the targeted population (street families)
- The grant to support organizations to provide a practical engagement with the Counties and deploy resources for the benefit of street families.
- The supported organizations/institutions to give tangible results and within the set timelines.
- Develop models that can be replicated in other Counties.

Proposal Application

In pursuit of its mandate, the Board of Trustees invites interested stakeholders to tender their application for the 2026/2027 round of SFRTF grant.

The selected applicants are expected to meet the following requirements as outlined below:

Requirements

1. The applicants should be legally registered in Kenya, and been in existence for more than 5 years since registration.
2. Organizations operating Charitable Children's Institutions (CCIs) must have a valid and current registration certificate issued by the National Council for Children Services (NCCS);
3. Organizations that do not operate CCIs should be registered under the relevant applicable authority and should provide a valid and current registration certificate;
4. The organization should demonstrate a structured organizational management;
5. The applicants should demonstrate their capacity and experience of working and providing services to street families in the past 3 years;
6. There must be direct linkage between the proposal and the actual situation on the ground;
7. The funds requested for should **NOT** be for development or personnel remuneration but for rehabilitation programmes;
8. The applicants should demonstrate their track record in collaboration with local authorities; both National and County Government as appropriate;
9. The applicants should demonstrate the capacity to sustain their programmes and operations beyond the grant period;
10. The applicants must have the endorsement and recommendation of the respective Street Families County Chapter in the county of operation;
11. Applicants in consortiums arrangements have an added advantage;
12. Only successful applicants will be contacted.

Interested parties are advised to download the Grant Application Forms via **https://sfrtf.go.ke/downloads** and submit the duly completed forms together with their proposals.

The proposals should be submitted to the address below on or before **22nd September, 2026.**

Ag. Chief Executive Officer
Street Families Rehabilitation Trust Fund
P.O. Box 40326, NAIROBI – TOURISM FUND BUILDING, 12TH FLOOR

Climate change spurs shift to regenerative coffee farming

1. **Kiganda Estate Farm Manager Paul Kabubi (Left) with General Group Manager at the Coffee Management Services Martin Ngare during the Certificate handing over ceremony in Kiganda Farm, Thika, Kiambu County. Photo courtesy.**
2. **Senior Director of Impact Programs for East and South Africa at the Rainforest Alliance Julius Ng'ang'a During the Certificate handing over Ceremony in Kiganda Farm, Thika, Kiambu County. Photo courtesy.**

BY ANITA OMWENGA (MY GOV)

Kenya's coffee sector is turning to regenerative agriculture as climate change, rising temperatures, pests and declining soil and water resources threaten the sustainability and productivity of coffee farms.

The shift is gaining momentum as farmers and industry players adopt practices aimed at restoring soil health, conserving water, protecting biodiversity and building resilience against increasingly unpredictable weather conditions.

The growing focus on regenerative farming has received a major boost after Kiganda Estate, a 65-hectare coffee farm in Thika, Kiambu County, became the first farm in Africa to receive certification under the Rainforest Alliance Regenerative Agriculture Standard.

The certification, achieved through a collaborative initiative involving the Rainforest Alliance, Coffee Management Services (CMS), Kiganda Estate and other industry stakeholders, recognises farming practices that improve climate resilience and soil fertility while opening access to specialised markets.

Speaking during the certificate handover ceremony at Kiganda Estate, Coffee Management Services Group General Manager Martin Ngare said regenerative agriculture offers a practical response to the environmental challenges facing coffee production.

"Regenerative agriculture is about improving soil health, managing and conserving water, increasing biodiversity and ensuring that all resources within the farm are used efficiently," Ngare said.

Kiganda Estate produces between 110 and 120 tonnes of clean coffee annually, equivalent to about six containers, with most of its produce exported to Europe and America.

Ngare said the adoption of regenerative practices was also helping the farm address the traditional biennial cycle in coffee production, where a high harvest is often followed by a significant decline the following year.

Healthier soils and coffee trees, he said, have contributed to more consistent production and improved reliability for international buyers. Certified coffee can also attract premiums of about one dollar per kilogramme above conventional coffee.

Rainforest Alliance Senior Director for Impact Programs in East and Southern Africa Julius Ng'ang'a said climate change was forcing farmers to rethink how they produce crops.

He said regenerative agriculture combines practices such as restoring soil health, improving water management, providing shade, protecting biodiversity and adopting pest- and drought-resistant crops.

"Kiganda's certification offers a practical example of how regenerative agriculture can be integrated into coffee production while addressing soil degradation, climate pressures and the need for more resilient and sustainable farms," Ng'ang'a said.

He added that buyers must support the transition by offering better prices and premiums to help farmers recover investments made in sustainable production.

Kenya Coffee Platform Chairman Karugu Macharia said regenerative agriculture builds on traditional farming practices, including intercropping, maintaining ground cover and applying organic matter.

He noted that soil conservation is critical in preventing erosion and the loss of fertilisers, while improved organic matter enhances soil productivity.

Macharia urged smallholder farmers to strengthen coffee management through proper pruning, feeding and other practices that support flowering and production.

Coffee Research Institute Deputy Director Dr Tony Maritim said research into climate-resilient varieties would be critical as Kenya expands coffee production into new regions.

The institute, he said, is screening new varieties and exploring ways of developing coffee that can adapt to different climatic conditions and withstand pests and diseases.

Kiganda Estate Farm Manager Paul Kabubi described the certification as recognition of the workforce's commitment to environmentally sustainable coffee production.

"This certification is an important milestone for the farm and reflects the considerable effort and commitment made by the entire team," he said.

Mombasa University scientists to develop climate-smart wastewater treatment technology

BY SADIK HASSAN (KNA)

Dr Mariam Swaleh, Deputy Registrar - TUM (Partnership, Research and Innovation) in Laboratory.

Scientists at the Technical University of Mombasa (TUM) are spearheading an international research project to develop a nature-based wastewater treatment technology that could help

protect Mombasa's marine ecosystems, improve coastal water quality and strengthen climate resilience.

The initiative, dubbed SWATIA (Sustainable Wastewater Treatment Using Algal-Bacterial Consortia for Enhanced Resilience to Climate Change in Africa), brings together researchers from TUM, the University of Tsukuba in Japan and Durban University of Technology in South Africa.

The project comes amid growing concern over wastewater pollution in Mombasa where rapid urbanisation continues to outpace ageing sanitation infrastructure.

Households and properties in the county generate an estimated 337 million litres of wastewater every day, yet roughly 95 per cent of the city's liquid waste remains unaccounted for and ultimately finds its way directly or indirectly into the ocean.

The resulting pollution threatens marine ecosystems, public health and the sustainability of the blue economy.

The Technical lead, TUM scientist Dr Mariam Swaleh said the research focuses on harnessing the natural ability of microalgae and beneficial bacteria to remove pollutants from wastewater while simultaneously capturing carbon dioxide.

"Our goal is to demonstrate that nature itself can help solve one of the biggest environmental challenges facing coastal cities. We are developing an affordable and environmentally sustainable wastewater treatment technology that uses natural biological processes to clean wastewater while also addressing climate change," she said.

Unlike conventional wastewater treatment systems that rely on energy-intensive mechanical processes, algal-bacterial consortia use natural biological interactions to remove nutrients, organic matter and other contaminants while producing oxygen that enhances purification.

"As the microalgae grow, they absorb carbon dioxide through photosynthesis, helping to remove carbon from the atmosphere while cleaning wastewater.

The resulting biomass can be converted into valuable products such as biofertilizers and bioenergy, creating a circular economy where waste becomes a resource," Dr Mariam explained.

Environmental experts have long warned that inadequate wastewater treatment poses a significant threat to public health and marine ecosystems, including coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds that support fisheries, tourism and other sectors of the blue economy.

Cleaner wastewater could improve fish breeding grounds, protect tourism beaches and reduce health risks for coastal communities that depend on the ocean, highlighting the importance of sustainable wastewater management solutions.

According to Dr Mariam, the SWATIA Project demonstrates how a single innovation can address both environmental pollution and climate change.

Government extends relief assistance to Marsabit

BY ANTHONY MELLY (KNA)

The National Government, in partnership with the Oscar Junior Foundation and other stakeholders, has launched the distribution of food and non-food relief items to children and families affected by prolonged drought in Marsabit County.

The initiative seeks to cushion vulnerable families from the effects of the worsening drought, while ensuring that children remain in school and are protected from risks associated with prolonged food and water shortages.

In a speech delivered on her behalf by Secretary in the State Department for Children Services, Shem Nyakutu at Boru Haro Primary and Junior Secondary School in Sagante/Jaldesa Sub-County, the Cabinet Secretary for Gender, Culture and Children Services, Hanna Cheptumo Wendot, acknowledged the contribution of the national and county governments, national government administration officers (NGAOs), children services officers, community leaders and development partners, including the Oscar Foundation.

Cheptumo warned that drought can quickly develop into a child protection crisis.

"When livelihoods are lost and families are forced to move in search of food and water, children can lose access to school, healthcare and stable family care," she said.

She noted that some children could become separated from their families and exposed to neglect, exploitation, abuse and child marriage.

According to information from the State Department for Children Services, approximately 9,865 children in Marsabit County have been affected by the current situation.

Cheptumo said the figure represented thousands of childhoods requiring the attention of government, development partners, communities and well-wishers.

The relief packages include beans, rice, cooking oil, mattresses, blankets, sanitary towels, mosquito nets and dignity kits for girls.

She said the assistance would address some of the immediate needs of affected families, restore dignity and provide measures of stability during the difficult drought period.

The CS pointed to the government's cash transfers for orphans and vulnerable children (CT-OVC) programme, saying the State Department is currently supporting 1,430 beneficiaries in North Horr Constituency and 1,196 beneficiaries in Saku Constituency.

She said such interventions are part of a wider government responsibility to ensure vulnerable families receive support not only when crises occur but also as they work to recover from their effects.

Cheptumo further revealed that 3,754 child protection cases were reported in Marsabit County during the FY 2025/2026 through the Child Protection Information Management System.

The cases included 1041 registration cases of destitution, 710 cases involving orphaned children, 588 cases of neglect involving children out of school, 207 custody cases and 87 reported cases of child marriage.

El-Nino: National Crisis Communication Standing Committee to bolster crisis communication

PS Isaboke Chairing the newly formed National Crisis Communication Standing Committee's inaugural meeting at Teleposta Towers.

BY VIOLET OTINDO (PCO)

The Government is developing a coordinated crisis communication framework to prepare Kenyans for anticipated heavy rains and associated effects.

The inaugural National Crisis Communication Standing Committee meeting, chaired by Broadcasting and Telecommunications Principal Secretary Stephen Isaboke, identified last-mile communication as a major gap in the country's disaster preparedness system.

The meeting, attended by the Government Spokesperson Charles Owino and officials from various State departments and agencies, underscored the need to translate technical forecasts into timely and practical action.

PS Isaboke said the government must move beyond issuing forecasts and ensure that communities understand the risks and know the actions to take.

"An accurate and timely forecast does not save lives, but the action does," he said.

He explained that the proposed crisis communication mechanism would respond to both anticipated and sudden emergencies through a flexible structure that allows relevant technical institutions to join the response depending on the nature of a crisis.

The framework will define how incidents are classified, when situations should be escalated, the person or an entity to activate the response and how information should flow from technical agencies to government communicators and ultimately to the public.

A key concern raised during the meeting was ensuring that weather information reaches farmers and communities at the grassroots in a timely, understandable and actionable form.

"Farmers who suffered crop failure during the dry period could face further losses without timely guidance on planting dates, crop varieties, and expected rainfall," Patricia Ondeng', the Secretary-Public Communication, said.

Kenya Meteorological Department Principal Meteorologist Christine Maswi said the country is expected to receive above-normal rainfall during the October-November-December season, with many areas likely to experience significantly more rain than usual.

She said the prevailing El Niño conditions, combined with a positive Indian Ocean Dipole, could intensify rainfall over Kenya, with implications for agriculture, health, transport, roads, water, energy, disaster management and security.

Maswi said county directors of meteorology disseminate national forecasts to county and, where possible, ward levels, but acknowledged that the information does not always effectively reach individual households.

PS Isaboke called for greater use of existing local structures, including chiefs, public barazas, schools, agricultural extension networks and community leaders.

"We must come down to the level of the common mwananchi and translate information into plain, actionable messages—what the forecast means, where and when it will happen, and what people should do," he said.

Maswi said the Meteorological Department had shared climate information with relevant ministries to support the development of sector-specific advice, including guidance on appropriate crop varieties and farming practices.

The department provides forecasts ranging from 24-hour updates to monthly outlooks, complemented by advisories, warnings and monitoring systems such as river gauges that can trigger alerts for downstream communities.

Consequently, the government will develop a crisis communication playbook outlining roles, escalation triggers, verification processes and national and local communication procedures.

A prototype is expected within a week, with the current El Niño situation serving as the first practical test of the system.

The initiative follows Cabinet approval of the National Communication Policy which is expected to strengthen coordinated communication across government.

"Cabinet has given us the policy. What we owe Kenyans now is the follow-through-clear warnings, clear instructions and a government that speaks with one voice," Isaboke said.

Principal Secretary for the State Department for Industry, Dr. Juma Mukhwana, commissioning the Complete Warehouse at Kinanie Kenya Leather Development Commission (KLDC) in Athiriver Kinanie.photo by Jared Nyabuto

First warehouse at Kenya Leather Park handed over

BY ANNE KANGERO (KNA)

The Government has commissioned and handed over the first warehouse at the Kenya Leather Industrial Park in Kinanie, Athi River, to the first private investor, marking a major milestone in Kenya's quest to revive its leather industry.

Principal Secretary for the State Department for Industry, Dr. Juma Mukhwana, commissioned the facility and handed it over to Realeather Limited, the first investor to set up operations at the park.

Speaking during the commissioning ceremony at Kinanie, Dr. Mukhwana congratulated Realeather Limited for pioneering investment in the park and challenged the firm to commence operations immediately.

"There is a shortage since we do not have enough leather for the Kenyan market and so we urge the investor to start immediately to bring in the machines and workforce," Dr. Mukhwana said.

The PS said Kenya needs to significantly scale up leather production to meet demand in the local, East African Community and international markets, noting that the government has targeted bilateral frameworks to drive domestic value addition.

He expressed optimism that the entry of the first investor would ignite more interest in the sector and called on the Kenya Leather Development Council (KLDC) to develop investor-friendly policies to attract more firms to establish tanneries and leather value-addition factories at the park.

Dr. Mukhwana also inspected the administration block, which is nearing completion.

He said the block will host key service providers including the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA), banks and restaurants to ensure all essential services are available within the industrial park under one roof.

Bibirioni Level Four Hospital to start operations

BY KIPKORIR FELIX AND GRACE NAISHOO (KNA)

Bibirioni Level Four Hospital in Limuru Sub-County will begin operations following the completion of all construction works.

The modern facility is expected to strengthen access to healthcare services for residents of Bibirioni Ward and neighboring areas by bringing a range of general medical services closer to the community.

A final inspection of the health facility has confirmed that key works, including interior finishing, construction of the perimeter wall, cabro paving and landscaping, have been completed, paving the way for the installation and operationalization of medical services.

Medical equipment has already been delivered and awaiting installation before the hospital becomes fully operational.

Speaking during the final inspection, Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi said the completion is a major milestone in the county government's efforts to expand and improve access to quality healthcare.

Governor Wamatangi said the county is committed to ensuring the facility is equipped and operationalised to enable residents to access essential health services without travelling long distances.

"The completion of Bibirioni Level Four Hospital marks an important step in strengthening healthcare services in Limuru. We are now focused on installing the equipment and operationalizing the facility so that residents can begin benefiting from these services," Governor Wamatangi said.

A major component of the facility will be a cancer centre, which is expected to enhance access to cancer-related services within the sub-county and reduce the need for patients to travel to distant facilities for specialized care.

The inclusion of the cancer centre is expected to complement the general medical services offered at the hospital and contribute to the county's efforts to decentralize specialized healthcare services.

The completed perimeter wall, cabro works and landscaping have also improved the facility's external environment, while the completed interior works provide the necessary setting for installation of medical equipment and commencement of clinical services.

State moves to curb Sh45bn uncontrolled fishing losses

Kenya Fisheries Service Director-General Daisy Muriuki (centre), flanked by Kenya Fisheries Service Director Jared Agano (right), briefs the media after a stakeholders' forum on marine fisheries conservation in Mombasa

BY RAMADHAN NASSIB (KNA)

Kenya is losing an estimated Sh45 billion every year to illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, government officials revealed during a stakeholders' forum on marine fisheries conservation held at Shanzu, Mombasa.

The forum brought together government agencies, research institutions, Beach Management Units (BMUs) and non-state actors to chart a way forward on data-driven, policy-anchored management of the country's marine resources.

Speaking during the meeting, Kenya Fisheries Service (KFS) Director-General (DG) Daisy Muriuki said her agency's core mandate was to conserve, manage and develop the country's fisheries and aquaculture resources and ensure that no player in the sector is working at cross purposes.

"There is no duplication of mandates among the different players. Non-state actors are complementing government efforts," Muriuki said.

She singled out data management and research as areas needing deeper collaboration, urging that research findings be shared directly with fishing communities so they can appreciate the role reliable data plays in managing the resources they depend on.

Muriuki also pushed for all fisheries data to be consolidated under the Kenya Fisheries Service, the body legally mandated to manage such information.

The DG said the government was ramping up monitoring, control and surveillance through tools such as the Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) to track fishing activity within Kenyan waters.

She added that authorities were also exploring camera-based surveillance technology to cut down the high cost of patrolling Kenya's Exclusive Economic Zone.

KFS Director Jared Agano said fisheries management plans remained among the most important policy tools for guiding sustainable exploitation of marine resources.

He noted that, working with the State Department for Blue Economy and Fisheries, the agency had already developed management plans for priority fisheries, including marine aquarium and lobster fisheries.

"The priority now is to ensure these plans are effectively implemented to deliver tangible benefits to fishing communities while protecting the resources from depletion," Agano said.

He explained that the KFS works closely with BMUs to collect fish-landing data, which is compiled annually and published in fisheries statistical bulletins for use in planning.

However, he admitted that unreported catches linked to IUU fishing continue to complicate efforts to obtain complete data, adding that existing regulations and co-management guidelines were being used to build community capacity in data collection.

Blue Ventures East Africa Regional Director Nelly Otieno called for stronger collaboration between government agencies, conservation organisations, NGOs and fishing communities, stressing that conservation efforts must increasingly center on empowering communities who bear the brunt of marine resource degradation.

Kipini Beach Management Unit chairman and Tana River County BMU Network chairman Omar Ahmed Abdalla said fishing communities were grappling with mounting challenges, including climate change effects and the degradation of their fishing grounds.

"Changes in the marine ecosystem, blocked waterways and the degradation of rivers have contributed to the decline of fisheries in some areas," Abdalla said.

Labour Ministry seeks stronger measures to curb child labour

BY EKUWAM SYLVESTER (KNA)

The Ministry of Labour and Social Protection is reviewing the National Policy on the Elimination of Child Labour to strengthen measures for protecting children from emerging forms of exploitation and child labour.

The review seeks to establish a comprehensive multi-stakeholder framework that brings together government agencies, employers, communities, families, faith-based organisations and civil society groups in preventing and eliminating child labour.

Speaking during a public participation forum on the review of the policy in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County, Deputy Labour Commissioner Grace Mweresa said changing economic and social realities had created new vulnerabilities requiring regular review of government policies.

She said views gathered from stakeholders would inform the development of a stronger, responsive and evidence-based policy framework capable of addressing emerging forms of child labour.

"We are here to listen. Please share your experiences and recommendations on the emerging forms and sectors affecting children," Mweresa said.

She noted that children continue to face risks in sectors such as fishing, transport, mining and other informal activities, where cases of child labour could remain hidden and difficult to detect.

Mweresa said authorities need to establish where children work, why they are engaged in such activities. and who their employers are, and the factors making them vulnerable.

"This will help us understand the situation and develop measures to prevent and eliminate child labour," she said.

She said the public participation exercise was not intended to provide a platform for government officials to dictate solutions, but to allow communities and other stakeholders to share their experiences and propose practical interventions.

Mweresa called for stronger coordination among institutions responsible for child protection, saying a multi-sectoral approach was necessary to identify and address hidden forms of child labour.

Uasin Gishu County Labour Officer Carolyne Chemursoi speaks during a public participation forum on the review of the National Policy on the Elimination of Child Labour (Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2015) in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County.

She urged stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of existing interventions, facilitate the removal of children from exploitative work and ensure they have access to education, healthcare and social protection.

The Deputy Labour Commissioner also called for measures to address vulnerabilities affecting children in informal settlements, transit areas and communities exposed to migration-related risks.

She reminded employers of their responsibility to comply with labour laws and ensure children were not subjected to exploitative or hazardous work.

"The elimination of child labour is a critical issue. Government must provide the necessary framework, while employers must comply with labour laws and ensure that children are protected," Mweresa said.

She said children should grow up in safe and supportive environments, noting that protecting them from exploitation was essential to safeguarding their dignity, education, safety and future opportunities.

Uasin Gishu stakeholders led by County Labour Officer Carolyne Chemursoi called for increased resources for the Children Services Department to strengthen interventions targeting vulnerable children.

Mau evictees welcome state compensation

BY EMILY KADZO (KNA)

Residents of Sogoo in Narok South have welcomed the Government's decision to compensate genuine families in the Mau Forest.

They said the move will enable their families to rebuild their lives after vacating the forest land.

The residents spoke after undergoing vetting by the Amalo Sub-County vetting Committee in Narok South.

The residents were confirmed as genuine squatters affected by a government's directive to vacate the Mau Forest to pave way for reafforestation and restoration of the country's vital water catchment.

Some2,600 evictees were cleared for the compensation. Each will receive Sh200,000 starting this week.

Another 3,600 people are undergoing verification of their documents before their compensation can be processed.

Speaking at Sogoo, village elder, Kipkoech Langat, lauded the government for the compensation programme, saying the funds would enable affected families to restart their lives and acquire alternative means of livelihood.

Langat also urged residents, whose documents are yet to be verified, to turn-up for the exercise, warning that failure to participate could lead to unnecessary disputes once the final list of beneficiaries is compiled.

"We are grateful for the government's effort to compensate those who have been verified. The money will give families an opportunity to start afresh," he said.

Another resident, Wilson Tonui, appealed to the government to consider increasing the compensation amount, saying the rising cost of living had made it difficult for displaced families to establish themselves elsewhere.

Tonui urged authorities to establish a mechanism to assist genuine beneficiaries who may have been inadvertently left out because of documentation challenges or other verification issues.

He commended the progress made so far, urging the authorities to ensure that no genuine evictee is left behind in the compensation programme.

The Mau Forest has for years been at the centre of government efforts to balance environmental conservation with the welfare of communities that have settled within or around the forest.

The forest complex, which spans several counties, is a critical water tower that feeds major rivers and supports agriculture, wildlife and other economic activities in the Rift Valley and beyond.

In Narok, government-led efforts to reclaim forest land have at times resulted in the displacement of families who had settled in the Mau.

Kenya turns to nature to drive fair and green economic transition

BY BRIDGIT NASURUMBI (MYGOV)

Kenya is seeking to protect nature while creating and expanding economic opportunity in Nanyuki.

The country will do it through Just Transition, which creates a greener economy that is fair, inclusive and responsive to the needs of workers, businesses and communities.

For Kenya, where millions of people rely on forests, rangelands, water towers and other natural resources, the transition is not only an environmental priority but also an economic and social imperative, the National Environment Trust Fund NETFUND Director of Resource Mobilisation Dr. James Njagu said

"The programme is utilizing nature-based solutions to restore degraded ecosystems, strengthen resilience to climate change, support green and decent jobs, and improve livelihoods," he said.

The initial implementation focuses on the Ewaso Ng'iro North Basin and the upper Lake Victoria South Basin.

Dr Njagu said Kenya's green transition is not only about reducing emissions or rehabilitating degraded land, but also about investing in people, strengthening local economies and building a future in which environmental stewardship and prosperity reinforce each other.

During a workshop in Nanyuki, Dr. Njagu recognised the contribution of partners in strengthening national and county capacity to implement Kenya's climate agenda.

"You should move beyond discussion and translate learning into visible results. We need to move from workshops to action," he said.

Participants examined how ecosystem restoration generates employment, improves climate resilience and creates new economic opportunities.

Their discussions focused on ensuring that communities, workers and enterprises are not passive observers of the green transition, but active participants and beneficiaries.

Participants observed that community-led restoration practices which include semi-circular bunds that capture rainwater to reduce surface runoff and improve soil moisture can help restore degraded rangelands.

"The healthier rangelands improves livestock production, strengthen food security, reduce pressure on fragile ecosystems, support nature-based enterprises and provide additional income opportunities for rural communities," Dr Njagu said.

He observed that the Just Transition agenda is important for pastoralists and other natural resource-dependent communities since it overlooks their realities and deepens existing inequalities.

It helps them to adopt sustainable land-management practices, diversify incomes, gain new skills and access financing for emerging green opportunities, he said.

Pastoralists representative Moses Nokisho voiced his concerns during the workshop and said he had relied on livestock throughout his life.

Gov't, counties collaborate to advance health reforms

Health Cabinet Secretary (CS) Aden Duale speaking during a Special Session of the Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council (IBEC) in Nairobi where the Council deliberated on critical matters affecting the financing, workforce, and continuity of healthcare services across the country.

BY MICHAEL OMONDI (KNA)

Strengthening of intergovernmental collaboration remains central to the success of Kenya's health sector reforms and the sustainability of healthcare delivery.

During a special Session of the Intergovernmental Budget and Economic Council (IBEC), Health Cabinet Secretary (CS) Aden Duale said the Government had allocated Sh8.6 billion, inclusive of statutory employer contributions, to facilitate the transition of 7,789 Universal Health Coverage (UHC) workers to Permanent and Pensionable terms.

The Health CS reaffirmed the Ministry of Health's commitment to safeguarding the welfare of the affected health workers while ensuring that administrative processes do not interrupt service delivery.

"Following challenges experienced during the transfer of the workers from the National Government payroll to County Government payrolls, measures were undertaken to safeguard salary payments as consultations continue towards a sustainable transition framework," he said.

The Council, which was chaired by Deputy President Kithure Kindiki, also reviewed progress in the implementation of the statutory remittance of Social Health Authority (SHA) contributions.

"Significant progress continues to be recorded in the settlement of legitimate healthcare provider claims, with the overall claims settlement rate across the 47 counties currently standing at 78 per cent and Sh 159.3 billion already paid," Duale said.

The CS said efforts to resolve legacy obligations inherited from the former NHIF are similarly advancing as he announced that the reconciliation and sign-off process for claims of Sh10 million and below per facility has been completed for 3,526 healthcare facilities, with 3,058 facilities having received payments amounting to Sh3.63 billion.

The IBEC session further considered the proposal to review the statutory SHA remittance deadline from the 9th to the 25th of each month, a proposal which still remains under consideration and has not been formalised or gazetted.

Consequently, the Ministry of Health and the National Treasury are working jointly to finalise a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), while taking into consideration the requisite legal, administrative and systems implications.

The deliberations reaffirmed the importance of coordinated action between the national and county governments in advancing the country's health transformation agenda.

Beyond chips: Unlocking potato's hidden value

BY WANGARI NDIRANGU (KNA)

Potato value addition is emerging as a key strategy for boosting farmers' incomes and creating new markets for one of Kenya's most important food crops.

Beyond selling fresh potatoes, farmers and processors are increasingly being encouraged to turn the crop into products such as chips, crisps, flour and other processed foods, helping to reduce post-harvest losses while increasing the value earned along the supply chain.

The push for diversification is also extending beyond conventional food products, with farmers being encouraged to explore innovative uses of potatoes, including potato-based soap.

Such innovations could open new markets for the crop, create employment and strengthen Kenya's potato value chain by transforming potatoes from a largely raw agricultural commodity into a source of higher-value products.

The Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) is encouraging potato farmers and young people to venture into value addition by turning surplus and damaged potatoes into soap to reduce post-harvest losses and create income opportunities.

KALRO researcher Faida John says that the potato soap technology provides an opportunity for farmers to earn additional income from potatoes that would otherwise be left to rot, particularly when market prices are low.

Speaking to KNA on the sidelines of the commissioning of the Marindas Seed Potato Centre in Kuresoi, Nakuru County, to help bridge a 126,000-ton supply gap in certified potato seeds in the country, Faida noted that cut or damaged potatoes from a harvest can indeed be processed to make homemade soap

"When there is surplus production, most farmers would rather let their produce go to waste. We thought of coming up with a value-added product, potato soap, that helps farmers and even the youth make a living through soap production," John said.

He noted that the technology is relatively simple and uses locally available materials, including a blender, paper towels, troughs and sodium hydroxide, commonly known as acidic soda.

Display of potatoes and how they can be used to add value.

According to Faida, the soap can be made using either peeled or unpeeled potatoes, with the aim of minimizing waste along the potato value chain.

"Potatoes contain vitamin C and antioxidants, which are retained in the soap because the potatoes are blended rather than sieved before being incorporated into the soap-making process. The antioxidants are very important because they help in removing dark spots and have some anti-ageing effect," he explained

He said that the soap is currently retailing at about Sh200 per piece, presenting an opportunity for farmers, youth and other players in the potato value chain to generate income and added that interested farmers and entrepreneurs can visit KALRO centres for training on how to produce the soap.

The researcher, however, cautioned that Kenya should not interpret the availability of value-addition technologies as an indication that the country has produced enough potatoes to meet domestic demand.

"We haven't really fed ourselves. We can't say we have a surplus," he said, noting that significant quantities of potatoes are lost after harvest due to poor prices and inadequate storage.

Faida said farmers sometimes hold onto their potatoes hoping for better market prices, but the crop is highly perishable and can deteriorate before prices improve.

He noted that mechanically harvested potatoes can also have cuts and damaged tubers, which farmers often feed to livestock or leave to rot.

"Instead of letting them rot or wasting them, you can actually come up with a product that brings value to you and brings you revenue. That is what we are trying to do , bring money into the pockets of the farmers that we meet," she said.

Faida further explained that the soap can be produced from different potato varieties, meaning farmers do not need to grow a specific variety to benefit from the technology, adding that potato soap is only one of several value-added products that can be developed from the crop.

Other products include dehydrated potato cubes, potato starch and potato flour, which can be used in baking cakes and other food products.

"Most of us just know the table part of potato and the processing part in terms of chips and crisps. But there is another array to it, the value-addition part," Faida said.

Expanding potato value addition, Faida said, could help reduce wastage while creating new income-generating opportunities for farmers and young people.

Globally and regionally, potatoes remain one of the most highly wasted staple foods, with countries like Kenya losing roughly 23 per cent of their total potato harvest before it reaches the consumer.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

WRA

Securing Water Resources, Safeguarding Our Future

Horn of Africa Groundwater for Resilience

WORLD BANK GROUP

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI) FOR CONSULTING SERVICES - CONSULTANT'S QUALIFICATION SELECTION (CQS) – FIRMS SELECTION

Name of Project:	HORN OF AFRICA – GROUND WATER FOR RESILIENCE PROJECT (HOAGW4RP)
Assignment Title:	CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DESIGN REVIEW AND SUPERVISION OF THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF HEADQUARTERS BUILDING FOR THE WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY
Project ID No.	P174867
Credit No:	IDA-7082-KE
Refrence NO.:	KE-WRA-564484-CS-CQS

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Horn of Africa Ground Water for Resilience Project (HoAGW4RP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds towards payments under the contract for **Consultancy Services for Design Review and Supervision of the Proposed Construction of Headquarters Building for the Water Resources Authority (Contract No. KE-WRA-564484-CS-CQS).**

The consulting services ("the Services") include: review the designs, all relevant documents and construction supervision. The consultant shall obtain the approved construction detailed drawings Architectural, Structural and Services (Electrical, Plumbing, Firefighting Infrastructure, ICT and Security System) in order to acquaint with the design and advice of any enhancement in terms of construction methodologies and project implementation. Furthermore, the consultant will review tender documents in consultation with available specific reports and documents, ESIA report and any other related project document to be reviewed for the purpose of identifying any omissions/ additions, which compromise or supplement the completeness or consistency of the design together with the review of Bills of Quantities and Specifications.

The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment found at the following website: Water Resources Authority's **https://wra.go.ke/tenders/**; and PPIP Portal **http://www.tenders.go.ke** or can be obtained at the address provided below.

The Water Resources Authority now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are:

a. **Specific Experience of the Consultant** (as a firm) relevant to the Assignment. Demonstrate Experience in design and construction supervision of office buildings, commercial buildings, institutional facilities of at least five (5) projects completed within the last 10 years.
b. **Experience in Similar Assignments.** Demonstrate Successful completion of at least two (2) assignments of similar complexity, size, and value, including contract administration and project management services in the last five (5) years.
c. **Adequacy and quality** of the proposed methodology and work plan in responding to the Terms of Reference.
d. **Key Experts'** qualifications and competence to undertake the Assignment.

The Consultant(s) will be selected in accordance with the World Bank's Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers, dated July 2016, revised November 2017, August 2018, November 2020 and revised September 2023 which can be found at the following website: **www.worldbank.org/procurement**

The duration of the Consultancy Services is;

1. Consultancy Services for Design Review **Five (5) Months**
2. Consultancy Services for Construction Works Supervision Stage **Twenty-Four (24) Months**

The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs, 3.14, 3.16, and 3.17 of the World Bank's "Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers" 5th Edition September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected. However, the experience of a sub-consultant will not be considered while short-listing.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultants' Qualifications Selection (CQS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours **[weekdays Monday to Friday 0800hrs to 1700hrs local time excluding public holidays].** Interested Consultants are required to continually check the Water Resources Authority website **https://wra.go.ke/tenders/** for any additional information or clarification that may arise before the submission date.

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below **(in person, or by mail)** so as to be received on or before **Thursday 8th October 2026 at 1100Hours, Kenya local time. (GMT+3 hours)**.

The Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) should be addressed to:

Chief Executive Officer
Water Resources Authority,
SHA Building, 9th Floor, Wing B
Ragati Road off Ngong Road,
NAIROBI, KENYA.
Telephone: +254 020 2732291
Email addresses: procurement@wra.go.ke /info@wra.go.ke

Emergency Hotline: 0700 056472 **@WRA_Kenya** **@Water Resources Authority** **@WRA KENYA**

Email: wra@wra.go.ke, info@wra.go.ke, Website: www.wra.go.ke

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KeNHA Kenya National Highways Authority — Quality Highways, Better Connections

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REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Country:	Kenya
Project Name:	Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP)
Credit No.:	6768-KE
Assignment Title:	Consultancy Services for the Review of Kenya National Highways Authority's (KeNHA) Environment and Social Safeguards Management Systems, and Development of Digitization and Automation Requirements.
Reference No.:	KE-KENHA555685-CS-CQS
Tender No.:	KeNHA/3006/2026

1. The Government of the Republic of Kenya (hereinafter called "Borrower") through the Ministry of Roads and Transport) has received financing from the International Development Association (IDA) (the "Bank") in the form of a "credit" (hereinafter called "credit") toward the cost of the Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

2. The consulting services ("Consultancy Services for the Review of Kenya National Highways Authority's (KeNHA) Environment and Social Safeguards Management Systems, and Development of Digitization and Automation Requirements. The services will entail a comprehensive institutional, operational, and systems review of KeNHA's Safeguards Department and develop functional and technical requirements for automation and digitization of safeguards operations.

3. The period of the consultancy services is **22 weeks** and the estimated number of person-months of key professional personnel is 24

   The Detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found at the following website: **www.kenha.co.ke**

4. The Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA) now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

The shortlisting criteria is as follows:

i. **Core business and years in business:** The firm(s) shall be registered/incorporated as a consulting firm with core business in any of the following areas: (i) Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA); (ii) Environmental and Social Management Systems (ESMS) development and review; (iii) Safeguards compliance audits and monitoring; (iv) Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) and stakeholder engagement; (v) ICT-enabled business process automation and digitization; or (vi) Development of management information systems and digital workflows; for a period of at least fifteen (15) years.

ii. **Relevant experience:**

   (a) The firm(s) shall demonstrate experience in the following areas: (i) Development of safeguards policies, procedures, manuals, and operational guidelines; and (ii) Business process mapping, re-engineering, and workflow optimization; and experience in any four of the following areas: (i) Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) assessments and management systems; (ii) GIS-based environmental and social data management and spatial analysis; (iii) Digitization and automation of safeguards processes and workflows; (iv) Requirements analysis, design, and development of Management Information Systems (MIS) and digital platforms; (v) Data management systems, dashboards, and compliance tracking tools; or (vi) Support for compliance with national regulations and international development partner safeguards frameworks.

   (b) Additionally, the firm should demonstrate successful execution and completion of at least three (3) assignments of a similar nature and in a similar operating environment in the last ten (10) years. Details of similar assignments - Name and address of the client, scope, value, and period should be included in the Expression of interest Interest (EOI).

iii. **Technical and managerial capability of the firm(s):** The firm(s) shall demonstrate as having the requisite technical capability, which shall entail a description of relevant personnel, equipment, software, etc, and managerial capacity to undertake the assignment. Key experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

5. Due to the need for brevity, interested Consultants should only provide sufficient information that will enable KeNHA to determine the Consultant's capabilities in the field of the assignment, but legal documents such as certificates of incorporations, power of attorney, or translations of standard brochures should not be submitted at this stage. The maximum page limit for the EOI, including any annexes, shall therefore not exceed 20 pages. This limit applies for single entities as well as firms in associations.

6. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to Section III, paragraphs 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the World Bank's Procurement Regulation for IPF Borrowers, First Published July 2016 and Revised in February 2025 (6th Edition) ("Procurement Regulations") setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

7. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.

8. A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultant's Qualification-based Selection (CQS)method set out in the Procurement Regulations.

   Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours, **Mondays to Fridays from 0800 to 1700 hours (East Africa Time), excluding public holidays**

9. The Expressions of Interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below in person, or by mail, or by email clearly marked **REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR THE REVIEW OF KENYA NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY'S (KENHAKeNHA) ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL SAFEGUARDS MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, AND DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITIZATION AND AUTOMATION REQUIREMENTS. TENDER No.: KeNHA /3006/2026, by Tuesday, 22nd September, 2026 at 1100hrs (East Africa Time)**. Expressions of Interest delivered in person shall be deposited in the tender box at Barabara Plaza, Block C, 2nd Floor.

There shall be no public opening of the Expressions of Interest.

Supply Chain Management Department
Attn: Deputy Director, Supply Chain Management Department
Kenya National Highways Authority,
Barabara Plaza, Block C, 2nd Floor, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA),
off airport Airport South Road, along Mazao Road,
P.O. Box 49712 – 00100 NAIROBI, KENYA
Email address (for EOI submission): tender@kenha.co.ke

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

Deputy Director, Supply Chain Management
For: Director General

Vision: A quality National Trunk Road Network to all for prosperity

Mission: To develop and manage resilient, safe, and adequate National Trunk Roads for sustainable development through innovation and optimal utilization of resources

Core Values: | Accountability | Sustainability | Innovation | Teamwork

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Government stabilizing milk production and supply

BY NANCY OMONDI, CELINE MWENDE AND DICKSON MWITI (KNA)

The Government will work with the animal feed manufacturers and millers to identify and facilitate distribution of feed stocks in a bid to address the current milk shortage.

The Ministry of Agriculture together with the Association of Kenya Feed Manufacturers (AKEFEMA) and other feed millers aims to identify areas with surplus and distribute to dairy farmers through cooperatives and processors.

Principal Secretary (PS) for Livestock Development, Jonathan Mueke, said milk production has declined by 3.7 per cent in milk deliveries to processors due to prolonged drought.

The PS said milk deliveries fell from 84.4 million litres in June to 81.3 million litres in July 2026 with a preliminary report pointing to a further decline in August.

Speaking in Nairobi, Mueke attributed the decline primarily to prolonged dry conditions that have reduced pasture and increased pressure on animal feeds.

"The real issue is fodder pressure due to lack of rain," Mueke explained, noting that the dry conditions have affected not only Kenya, but also neighbouring countries.

He noted that the reduced availability of feed has lowered milk production, consequently limiting supplies to processors and causing intermittent shortages of some milk brands and pack sizes in retail outlets.

Mueke stressed that supporting farmers is central to restoring the supply chain, observing that inadequate feeding directly affects milk yields.

He said the government had also approved the duty-free importation of 500,000 tonnes of yellow maize for use as a raw material in animal-feed manufacturing, a measure he indicated is expected to ease pressure on feed manufacturers and help contain production costs.

"The necessary gazettement is expected next week (this week), paving the way for feed millers to import the maize," Mueke stated.

The PS further said the Kenya Dairy Board (KDB) would intensify monitoring of milk production and the movement of milk from farms to processors, to ensure farmers receive fair prices and adequate quantities reach the formal market.

Principal Secretary (PS) for Livestock Development, Jonathan Mueke (Center), unveiling urgent measures Government is undertaking to address the current milk shortage following a 3.7 percent decline in production attributed to prolonged drought and fodder shortages. He spoke after meeting stakeholders from Kenya Dairy Processors Association led by their Chairman, Kenneth Gitonga (Right) and the regulator, Chairman of the Kenya Dairy Board, Genesio Mugo

This, according to the PS, follows concerns that some farmers are diverting milk to informal buyers, where they receive better prices, depriving processors of raw milk.

Mueke raised concerns over governance within some dairy cooperatives, saying some were purchasing milk from farmers at more than Sh60 per litre, but retaining significant margins instead of passing adequate returns to producers.

Meanwhile, Agriculture Cabinet Secretary (CS), Mutahi Kagwe, called on dairy farmers in Tharaka Nithi to increase milk production.

He said the government is supporting the establishment of milk processing and value addition facilities in the region.

Kagwe said the county currently produces about 57 million litres of milk annually, which he noted is insufficient to sustain a milk processing plant at full capacity.

He said increasing milk production would require farmers to adopt high-yielding dairy breeds, improve animal feeding and embrace modern breeding technologies.

"The first thing is to increase milk production. Fifty-seven million litres is not enough to sustain a processing factory at full capacity," Kagwe said.

The CS said the government had already intervened through the provision of sexed semen, which he said would help farmers progressively improve the quality of their dairy herds.

He clarified that while conventional semen previously cost about Sh7,000, sexed semen was priced at approximately Sh9,000, noting that government support had helped make sexed semen more accessible to farmers.

Kagwe urged farmers to make greater use of sexed semen across the county to increase the number of productive dairy animals and improve milk yields.

He, however, said improved breeds alone would not be sufficient unless the cost of animal feed was addressed.

"The thing that drives the cost of milk production and ultimately determines whether a dairy farmer or investor makes money is the cost of animal feed," he said.

The CS said the government will lower feed costs by availing large government farms for production of yellow maize which is suitable for livestock feed.

Rising lakes crisis prompts urgent action as Baringo and Bogoria threaten communities

BY EUGINE OTIENO AND MOTURI NYABONYI (PCO)

From Left, The Principal Secretary for the State Department for Environment and Climate Change, Dr Festus Ng'eno and The Principal Secretary for Wildlife Silvia Museiya.

The Government has stepped up efforts to avert a deepening humanitarian and environmental crisis around Lakes Baringo and Bogoria as rising waters continue to submerge homes, schools, health facilities, businesses and farmland, placing thousands of residents and critical infrastructure at risk.

The escalating threat has also alarmed the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Environment, Forestry and Mining, which has called for urgent answers on the causes of the rising waters, the government's mitigation plans and possible compensation for families whose land and property have been swallowed by the expanding lakes.

The committee engaged Principal Secretaries and technical experts from key government departments following concerns raised by Baringo South MP and committee Vice-Chairperson Charles Kamuren over the continued expansion of Lakes Baringo and Bogoria.

Committee Chairperson Vincent Musyoka said Parliament wanted clarity on whether the government fully understood the causes of the phenomenon and had a concrete plan to address it.

"We need to be able to answer a few questions. One, do we know what is causing all these problems? And then number two, do we have a real plan?" Musyoka said.

He added that compensation for households whose private land and property had been submerged could not be ignored, noting that the expanding lakes had also intensified human-wildlife conflict as aquatic animals moved into areas previously occupied by communities.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry has completed a scoping mission of communities and infrastructure at risk around the two lakes as the country prepares for anticipated El Niño rains.

The exercise, led by Environment and Climate Change Cabinet Secretary Dr Deborah Mlongo Barasa and Principal Secretary Dr Festus Ng'eno, covered nine high-risk locations, including Loruk, Kampi ya Samaki, Loboi and Salabani.

The assessment revealed widespread destruction, with rising waters submerging households, learning institutions, health facilities, businesses and farmland. Tourism establishments and public amenities in Loboi and Kampi ya Samaki have also been affected, while communities in Loruk and Salabani face displacement and loss of livelihoods.

Dr Ng'eno told the parliamentary committee that the rising lakes phenomenon, observed since around 2020, had become a major national concern requiring coordinated intervention.

The government has established a multi-sectoral technical committee bringing together 17 Principal Secretaries and other agencies to coordinate responses in water, education, roads, wildlife, health, security and disaster management.

Scientists are also conducting further studies into the hydrological, geological and climatic factors driving the rising waters.

The shrinking gap between Lake Baringo and Lake Bogoria has raised fears of a possible merger that could severely disrupt their distinct ecosystems.

Government agencies are now developing a joint contingency plan covering evacuation protocols, relocation sites, early-warning systems, emergency flood control and restoration of damaged infrastructure.

The technical team is compiling its findings for submission to the National Security Council, paving the way for the transition from planning to full implementation of interventions aimed at protecting lives, livelihoods and the fragile ecosystems surrounding Kenya's rising lakes.

IEBC targets 28.5 million voters in next polls

BY SADIK HASSAN (KNA)

The Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) targets to register at least 28.5 million eligible voters.

The Commission at the same time has developed a robust Election Operations Plan and a Strategic Plan for 2024–2029 to serve as a roadmap for its activities in the run-up to the 2027 General Election.

Drawing lessons from past electoral cycles, IEBC Chairperson, Erastus Ethekon, reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to conducting the 2027 General Election in accordance with the law and guided by the principles of independence, accountability, transparency and professionalism.

"The foundation of a credible election is a clean, accurate and verifiable register of voters," stated Ethekon, noting that since the commencement of continuous voter registration (CVR) on September 29, 2025, eligible Kenyans have continued to register as voters, transfer their registration and update their particulars.

In the 2022 General Election, Kenya had 22.1 million registered voters. For the 2027 General Election, the IEBC projects a register of approximately 28.5 million voters.

The Commission is also expanding voter registration for Kenyans living abroad from 12 to 26 countries, advancing the progressive constitutional right of eligible citizens residing outside the country to participate in elections.

The Commission is leveraging biometric technology for voter registration and verification to strengthen the integrity of the voters' register by enabling voters to inspect and verify their biometric data ahead of Election Day.

"The process also facilitates the removal of deceased persons and cases of double registration. Further, the register of voters will be subjected to a forensic audit by a professional independent audit firm, which will certify it for use in the 2027 General Election," explained Ethekon.

The Chairperson further reiterated that a successful election is a collective national endeavour, pledging to work closely with government agencies, political parties, the media, civil society, faith-based organizations, development partners and Kenyans.

"The Commission is proactively working towards strengthening coordination among security and justice actors to ensure a peaceful and secure environment. This multi-sectoral approach is vital for ensuring peaceful elections, enhancing the capacity of our officials and efficiently enforcing the law," he said.

Under the election timelines, any public officer intending to contest in the election must resign from public office by Wednesday, February 10, 2027, exactly six months before the election.

Political parties are required to submit the names of their authorized persons and specimen signatures by October 15, 2026. They must also have their nomination rules certified by the Registrar of Political Parties by October 30, 2026, and submit them to the Commission by November 6, 2026.

In addition, political parties must submit their membership lists to the Commission by Tuesday, March 16, 2027. On the same day, they are required to submit the names of candidates contesting in their party primaries, as well as the dates and venues of the primaries.

All party primaries must be concluded and any intra-party disputes resolved by Saturday, May 8, 2027. Independent candidates, who must not be members of any registered political party, are also required to submit their names and symbols to the Commission by the same date.

Presidential aspirants will be required to submit to the Commission a list bearing the names, signatures, identity card or valid passport numbers of at least 2,000 registered voters from each of a majority of the counties by May 24, 2027.

All nominees will appear before the Commission for candidate registration between Saturday, May 29, 2027, and Friday, June 11, 2027, depending on the elective seat they are seeking.

For the 2027 General Election, the campaign period will commence upon the registration of a candidate by the Commission, but not earlier than May 29, 2027, and will end on August 7, 2027, 48 hours before Election Day.

"Any campaigning outside this prescribed period is unlawful. This includes the display of campaign posters, caravans, billboards and other forms of campaigning," said Ethekon.

He added, "Political parties, candidates and their supporters are therefore urged to adhere to the law. The Commission will take appropriate action against violations of electoral laws and regulations."

IEBC Vice Chairperson Fahima Araphat urged election officials to apply lessons learnt from Enhanced Continuous Voter Registration I (ECVR I) to strengthen the implementation of ECVR II.

Speaking in Mombasa during the closing of a two-day workshop to review the implementation of ECVR I, Araphat said the Commission will build on the successes recorded, address challenges identified and enhance coordination and preparedness for the next phase.

She further assured that the Commission would mobilise the necessary funds and resources to support ECVR II and ensure its effective rollout.

Government to deploy 1200 electric vehicles to police stations in Kenya

BY WANGARI MWANGI AND SAMUEL MAINA (KNA)

The Government will deploy 1,200 electric vehicles to police stations across the country as part of on-going efforts to modernize the National Police Service (NPS).

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen said the target is to improve their operational capacity.

Speaking at the Kenya Police Training College in Kiganjo, Nyeri, Murkomen revealed that the procurement process for the vehicles is underway, adding that by the end of the year all police stations across the country will be resourced with the vehicles.

"If there is a challenge that Kenyans are facing now it is the lack of vehicles for police stations and we want to ask them to be patient with us. We are undertaking a procurement process and for the first time we will have 1,200 electric vehicles that are going to be supplied to our security teams across the country," said CS.

He revealed that through the modernization programme, the NPS had successfully procured modern protection gear for police officers, vehicles as well as tactical equipment that are currently helping them to adequately deal with security threats.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen, during an address at the Kenya Police Training College in Kiganjo in a past event. He has revealed plans by the Government to deploy 1,200 electric vehicles to police stations across the country as part of on-going efforts to improve police operational capacity.

He also hailed the modernization programme for its role in the fight against banditry noting that the officers had successfully eradicated 75 per cent of the menace particularly in Kerio Valley.

"Thanks to that effort, children are back to school, farmers are back to their farms and our country is safe. Our borders are also safe from Kiunga to Elwak, from Kibish to Konyau and all the way to Lwakhakha, Malaba all the way to Isibania and it is as a result of that investment you put through this program. We are dealing with the remaining 25 per cent of the banditry issue, especially in Isiolo, Samburu, Laikipia and Marsabit," the CS noted.

Murkomen said that the NPS had equally carried out a robust digitization programme that had ensured a significant improvement in realising the Police service charter as well as easing the acquisition of the critical police clearance documents by Kenyans.

"Thanks to the President's support the NPS has carried out a robust digitization programme that has ensured that the police clearance certificate that used to take months can now be processed instantly and can be obtained within a day," said Murkomen.

He said that the NPS is currently in the process of establishing Integrated Command Control and Communication centres in six counties that will see the NPS get its first digital Occurrence Book (OB) and have CCTV cameras installed in all stations in the country.

"There has been a phenomenon where sometimes people who have been arrested have faced challenges within the police station and installation of CCTV cameras in the 1200 police stations is going to become a game changer," he said.

"We are also going to have command centres in six counties including Nairobi, Mombasa, Nyeri, Nakuru, Eldoret and Kisumu to start with. These communication centres are going to be accompanied by having a digital OB that will enable all Kenyans to report crime at the places where they witness a crime and it will enable us to have data analytics that we will even apply AI to be able to know which officers are going to be deployed in which corner in our country," he added.

On the new police uniform, Murkomen noted that the change in attire was part of the recommendations made by the National Taskforce on Police Reforms. He also warned that naysayers that they should not overlook other efforts made to improve police welfare including the enhanced salaries, improved access to health services as well as the on-going efforts to improve their living conditions.

"I have seen some people equate the police reforms to only the uniform. The reforms cannot even cover one hour if I was to speak about them but the uniform is a representation of the image that the police officers wanted to be seen among themselves. Contrary to the propaganda out there the change from the old to the new will continue progressively with these officers that are graduating today and will progressively cover all officers until everyone gets the new uniform," he said.

The CS spoke during the passing out parade of over 4,000 police cadets at the college after completing their 9-month training. While expressing confidence that the new officers will improve the security sector, Murkomen said that the training curriculum that used on the cadets had been improved to capture modern challenges including digital challenges.

"The curriculum that we have and that has been used to train these officers is modern and has been improved and we believe that the officers that are going to graduate today are better trained to serve this nation under the challenges that we face now. That includes dealing with issues of digital or online crimes, crowd management, dealing with situations of public order and we believe that through that training we are going to have better officers," he said.

He also underscored the significance of continuous training in improving delivery of service. Murkomen noted that training programmes had resumed in a majority of the regional police institutions noting that all Officers Commanding Stations across the country have undergone leadership training.

"When we went around under Jukwaa la Usalama we established that the NPS has gone backwards in terms of training. The many regional police training institutions had been closed and the continuous training of officers was not being adhered to," he said.

"We have worked to re-open our regional police training centres across the country so that there will be continuous police training. Therefore, training is going to be the cornerstone of reforming the police service because that is extremely important. We would like our police officers to combat the challenges that they face but at the same time to be friendly and work with the members of the public to combat the challenges of our time," he said.

He also reiterated the Government's commitment to increasing the number of police training centres across the country to ensure continuous police training.

Similarly, he said the Government had increased the training grounds adding that in addition to Magado field training camp in Igembe South, plans are underway to establish new field training camps in Kerio Valley, the Northern and Coastal parts of the country in an effort to enhance police training.

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Infrastructure Fund to unlock Sh3.5 trillion investment–Kindiki

Every one shilling from the National Infrastructure Fund is expected to add Sh10 from private investors, translating to a potential Sh3.5 trillion in investments

BY FREDRICK MARITIM (KNA)

Deputy President Prof. Kithure Kindiki during an Interdenominational Sunday Worship Service at Kipsamoo Primary School in Kapseret Sub-County, Uasin Gishu County.

Deputy President Prof. Kithure Kindiki has said Government's Sh350 billion National Infrastructure Fund will unlock Sh3.5 trillion in additional investment through Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).

The Fund was established to accelerate development of critical infrastructure across the country and provide resources to complete stalled projects and support the expansion of roads, water systems, railways and other infrastructure.

Speaking at Kipsamoo Primary School in Kapseret Sub-County, Uasin Gishu County, the Deputy President said the Government would use the fund as seed capital to attract private investment.

Every one shilling from the National Infrastructure Fund is expected to add Sh10 from private investors, translating to a potential Sh3.5 trillion in investments, the Deputy President said.

"The National Infrastructure Fund has Sh350 billion in the account. The money is going to be seed money to attract Public-Private Partnerships. For every one shilling, we will attract another 10 shillings," he said.

Kindiki said the initiative would transform Kenya's infrastructure landscape and help complete projects that had remained unfinished for years.

"Through the fund, we are going to change the face of Kenya. The roads that have defeated us, we are going to complete them, and the water projects that have challenged us for 60 years will be addressed," he said.

He said other major projects were also ongoing, including expansion of the railway network, construction of roads and development of a new airport in Nairobi.

Kindiki cited the Isiolo-Mandera Road, which he said is more than 60 per cent complete, describing it as a major milestone that would open up the North Eastern region and improve movement of people and goods.

He added that the Government is considering extending the railway network to Malaba to facilitate trade and enhance regional connectivity.

Oparanya urges business owners to embrace SACCOs

BY ISAIAH NAYIKA AND SANDRA OMONDI (KNA)

Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Cooperatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Wycliffe Oparanya (*pictured*), has urged small and medium business owners to embrace Savings and Credit Cooperative Organizations (SACCOs).

He urged them to cultivate a savings culture and access affordable credit to grow their enterprises, saying SACCOs provide an important avenue for small-scale traders to save, access loans and build sustainable businesses, especially at a time when many entrepreneurs face challenges accessing affordable capital.

Speaking at Sibanga in Cherangany, Trans Nzoia County, the CS cautioned traders against relying on informal lenders who charge high interest rates, saying such borrowing undermines livelihoods and makes it difficult for entrepreneurs to sustain their businesses.

"When we visit traders and encourage them to join SACCOs, many tell us they are in 'chamas' yet they carry very high risks. The treasurer can disappear with your money, or on days when business is slow, you are still required to contribute. It just makes life difficult," he said.

He encouraged traders to join SACCOs and make regular savings, noting that even small contributions could accumulate into meaningful amounts that can later be used to access credit and invest.

"I want people to invest and join SACCOs to be able to take loans for their businesses. Come in large numbers and save even as little as possible. By the end of the month, the accumulated amount will be of help," he stated.

Oparanya said technology had transformed the cooperative sector by enabling members to access SACCO services, monitor their savings and conduct transactions through digital platforms without visiting physical offices.

"Because of technology, you can use mobile banking regardless of where you are. Therefore, you must embrace technology as a business person," he said.

The CS said the Government is implementing programmes aimed at expanding access to capital for small businesses and young entrepreneurs.

He said the Hustler Fund has so far disbursed more than Sh90 billion, with 28 million Kenyans registered, adding that about two million people access loans through the Fund daily.

Oparanya added that the Government is also using the NYOTA Fund to support young people, while encouraging them to join SACCOs to develop a savings culture and improve access to credit.

He commended the Cooperative Bank and the Cooperative Insurance Company (CIC) for providing financial and insurance services to members of the cooperative movement, saying such interventions help small businesses overcome challenges associated with access to capital and high interest rates.

BRIEFS

Trans Nzoia to use GIS to enhance service delivery

BY ISAIAH NAYIKA AND WINNIE JELAGAT

The County Government of Trans Nzoia is using the Geographic Information System (GIS) to enhance service delivery and resource management.

As such, Trans Nzoia thnical staff underwent a three-day training on the use of GIS.

The training was organized by the county government through funding of the European Union under the Digital Land Governance Programme supported by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

FAO regional representative, Ms. Linda Achieng, who was present during the opening of the training, said the exercise is central to improving land governance.

"This programme aims to enhance efficiency through digitalization of land records and processes. GIS will help counties integrate data across departments and improve planning," she said.

Citing pioneers of the programme in Kenya such as Vihiga County, Achieng said GIS is a timely intervention in strengthening service delivery and resource management.

"The immediate next steps focus on continuing hands-on training and unpacking the system," she added.

Trans Nzoia County Director for Physical Planning and FAO Programme Coordinator, Ms. Beatrice Wangila, said GIS mapping is vital in today's changing world.

"It will help us plan better by knowing where needs are greatest, serve fairly by reaching underserved communities, and decide wisely based on spatial evidence," she explained.

She said the long-term vision is for counties to transact, plan and manage resources using GIS platforms over the next five to ten years, in line with Vision 2030.

FAO facilitators, Mr. Kevin Ochieng and Mr. Anthony Ndubi, highlighted the practical benefits of GIS, saying it supports health facility placement, road maintenance, water access and revenue collection.

Kakamega public facilities attain 82 per cent electricity connectivity

BY JOHN OCHANDA KNA

The County Government of Kakamega has attained more than 82 per cent electricity connectivity in public schools and public facilities.

Energy and Petroleum Cabinet Secretary Opiyo Wandayi said the achievement demonstrates the government's commitment to expanding electricity access and making power a catalyst for education, healthcare, enterprise and improved livelihoods across the county.

Speaking during the flagging off of materials for the Kenya Power Last Mile Connectivity Programme (LMCP) at Lutali Village in Shirugu/Mugai Ward, Malava Sub County, the CS said the Government had invested Sh2.46 billion in electricity connectivity projects in Kakamega during the current financial year.

He said the investment targets 41,262 households across the county, with the programme expected to extend electricity access to more homes and communities that are yet to be connected to the national grid.

Wandayi said improved electricity connectivity would create an enabling environment for businesses, support learning and healthcare services and enhance the quality of life for residents.

The CS urged Kenyans to embrace unity, cohesion and constructive partnership to support the government.

Wandayi said Kenya's development ambitions require citizens to put aside political differences, work together and support initiatives aimed at improving the lives of Kenyans.

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