



**Government To Scale Up School Meals Program**  
As Kenya looks forward to engaging in the next phase of collaboration under the second WFP CSP (2023-2027), the Ministry of Education will focus more on scaling up school meals programs, enhancing policy and regulatory frameworks, and applying technology to improve service delivery.

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**News>>Disciplining Children In A Smart And Healthy Way**

**P. 8.** Most parents at some point struggle with how best to discipline their children. Whether it is a two-year old with tantrums, or an angry teenager, the issue is very real.



**Motivation>>To Reform The World, Start By Changing Yourself**

**P. 12.** To reform a world, to reform a nation, no wise man will undertake; and all but foolish men know, that the only solid, though a far slower reformation, is what each begins and perfects on himself..... Thomas Carlyle.



**Business>>State Provides Finance Mechanism Programme To Mitigate Effects Of Climate Change**

**P. 16** The Government has released funds to help redefine the climate change phenomenon through the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Programme (FLLOCA)

# Gachagua Pledges Implementation Of Tea Sector Reforms

**I give an undertaking that the reforms we are going to agree on, our two Houses of Parliament where we have the majority members will pass the needed amendments into law and thereafter we will ensure a 100% compliance with the law. This is part of our Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda," said DP Gachagua.**



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

STORY ON PAGE 9

## We're Keen On Fencing All Gazetted Forests, CS Tuya Says

By: Capital Correspondent

Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya has announced government

plans to fence all gazetted forests across the country to safeguard them from encroachment and other destructive human activities.

She said the fencing would also help sustain gains made through

ecosystem restoration efforts such as the 15 billion national tree growing programme.

"The first thing we've done as a Ministry is to map all forests across

STORY ON PAGE 13

Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya



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# Kenya Facing 79% Climate Change Financing Gap

By: Capital Correspondent

Worth Noting:

- “Kenya is already feeling the effects of Climate change. The wide-spread poverty, recurrent droughts, and floods, coupled by inequitable land distribution, overdependence on rain-fed agriculture, and limited coping mechanisms all combine to increase people’s vulnerability to climate change,” Onyango said .
- He said many Kenyans have little security against intense climatic effects. They have few resource reserves, poor housing and depend on natural resources for their living.



Kenya is facing a 79 percent climate change financing gap amidst increasing global warming effects that are causing havoc in developing countries.

The African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) Climate Change Programme lead, Dr. Joel Oyango stated that the situation is headed to a worse state if nothing is done to finance adaptation to climate change effects.

“Kenya is already feeling the effects of Climate change. The widespread poverty, recurrent droughts, and floods, coupled by inequitable land distribution, overdependence on rain-fed agriculture, and limited coping mechanisms all combine to increase people’s vulnerability to climate change,” Onyango said .

He said many Kenyans have little security against intense climatic effects. They have few resource reserves, poor housing and depend on natural resources for their living.

“The most affected sectors being agriculture – especially those depending on rain fed irrigation. It is important for the country to continue implementing strategies that contribute to mitigation and adaptation to the negative impacts of climate change in order to protect its citizens and economy,” he added.

Onyango was speaking during the launch of ACTS Pathways Academy, a resource training centre for action on climate change empowerment.

The virtual academy will provide access to borderless, flexible, informative training to foster skills, knowledge and collaborations on climate change.

The goal of the virtual academy is to enhance capacity on climate change matters in Africa including on climate change modeling for decision making , climate policy and leadership, climate change sustainable financing, to science communication for climate action.

“We intend to train over 5000 experts in the first year and partner with four different universities in Africa in a bid to enhance capacity in the continent to contribute to climate action.”

Africa Development Bank(AfDB) Climate Change Expert Winnie Chepkemai Mutai says lack of understanding about the effects of climate change has also contributed to the huge climate change financing gap.

“The private sector can play a huge role in bridging the financing gap, however, many private sector actors do not understand the importance of climate financing. Such initiatives will help them see the benefits of increasing their investment in climate change,” she added.

On his part, Africa Youth Commission Project Lead for Africa Activists for Climate Justice Programme Michael Khaduyusays the academy will go a long way in enhancing capacity among the youth in Africa who are the leaders of tomorrow.

“It is a fact that climate change has presented challenges globally, regionally and locally. With efforts being made to deal with these challenges, collaborative and inclusive efforts from different stakeholders is necessary to realize climate action goals,” Khaduyu noted.

Editor's Desk

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# Budget Allocation To Address Education Challenges - PS Kipsang

By: Muoki Charles  
@themkenyatimes

Education Principal Secretary Belio Kipsang has assured that the Sh628 billion budgetary allocation that the Ministry received in this year's budget will help address the major challenges that have been facing the sector.

Among the challenges, he said, are capitation, the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), the employment of more teachers, and school infrastructure development.

Speaking while opening a three-day Children's Devolution Conference at Mpesa Foundation Academy in Thika yesterday, Kipsang said they hope the allocation will ensure a smooth environment as well as offer quality education to the learners.

This comes as several schools are facing a cash crunch due to lack of remittances from the government.

Several school heads fear that the cash crunch may paralyze learning if

funds are not released on time.

The PS said the funds will also help in the ongoing junior secondary school programme, through the construction of new classes.

"From the budget, 30 per cent of it will be used for capitation. Helb will get close to Sh30 billion, up from Sh15 billion. More than 20,000 teachers for secondary and primary schools will also be employed. These will ease learning," he said.

The PS also said they are working towards enhancing digital education by building the relevant infrastructure, including the education cloud at KICDI.

Other programmes, he said, include mitigating school dropouts through feeding programmes.

He called for collaborations with the county government in areas like the Early Childhood and Development Education (ECDE) and school feeding programme.

He was accompanied by Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi and his Wajir and Mombasa counterparts, Ahmed Abdullahi and Abdullswamad Sheriff Nassir, respectively.



Principal Secretary Belio Kipsang with Scouts and Girl Guides.

Wamatangi revealed that his government had embarked on an ambitious ECDE school feeding programme to keep learners in class.

Under the programme, Wamatangi noted that children will be getting eggs and porridge on a daily basis in order to retain them in school.

"We want to build accessibility and quality access to early development education. We have launched a feeding programme in all our ECDEs to ensure that our young ones receive adequate nourishment," he stated.

# Lawyers Tear Gassed During Protest Against Land Registrar Ayienda In Kisii County

By: Elizabeth Angira  
@themkenyatimes

Several lawyers from Kisii County were tear-gassed by security officers as they marched towards the Kisii land office to protest against Land Registrar Charles Ayienda.

The lawyers, affiliated with the South West Branch Law Society of Kenya (LSK), clashed with the officers near the Kisii police station.

They regrouped after initially scattering for safety, only to be barred by armed officers when they attempted to storm the Registrar's office.

It's out constitutional right to demonstrate, said the lawyers.

Led by Polycarp Maroko, the Secretary General of the South West Branch LSK, the lawyers chanted "Ayienda must go" and accused him of implementing policies that hindered their work.



Lawyers holding peaceful demonstration against land registrar Ayienda. Photo/Elizabeth Angira.

Last week, they submitted a petition to Ayienda highlighting their grievances, but he has yet to respond.

The lawyers expressed their determination to continue protesting until Ayienda is transferred.

Maroko stated that the Registrar had

not addressed the issues raised in the petition.

He criticized the tough conditions imposed by Ayienda, which required the lawyers to produce court orders and original gazette notices for succession to obtain certified copies of documents.

Maroko found this unacceptable and unprofessional, insisting that the Registrar should be more accessible and attentive to lawyers' concerns.

George Morara, Chairman for young lawyers, affirmed that they would not

be intimidated and vowed to continue the protests until the Registrar was transferred.

Morara emphasized that their demonstrations were peaceful and disavowed any involvement in violence or property destruction.

In response to the accusations, Ayienda, accompanied by Deputy County Commissioner Wilberforce Kilonzo, stated that 80 percent of the land documents presented to his office were forged, which prompted the lawyers' protests.

Ayienda highlighted his objective to reform the registry and improve service delivery, assuring that significant changes would be implemented.

The lawyers have pledged to hold peaceful demonstrations every day next week until their grievances are addressed.

# COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KIRINYAGA

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# Kenya And India Strengthen Business Deals

By: Ali Sheikh Mohammed and  
Peace Muthoka

@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- “Trade relations have remained cordial over the years, and both countries have signed agreements on the promotion and protection of trade and investments, such as the India-Kenya Trade Agreement signed in 1981, under which both countries accorded Most Favored Nation (MFN) status to each other,” he reiterated.
- Mudavadi observed that Kenya’s Economic Blueprint envisions “a newly industrializing, middle-income Country, providing a high quality of life to all its citizens in a clean and secure environment, followed by a number of India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee (JTC) meetings, the signing of a bilateral Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA), the setting up of a Joint Business Council (JBC), as well as the signing of various Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs).



Parliamentary Affairs Principal Secretary, Aurelia Rono with other delegates.

The Kenyan Government has partnered with Rajasthan Association of Kenya (RAK) traders and investors to showcase opportunities for business in several sectors, including agriculture, agro processing, and the manufacturing of items from several other industries.

The government has prioritized a number of business-oriented areas as core propellers of economic prosperity, which is poised to help the Government in its Bottom-up Economic Transformational Agenda.

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi said that the Expo is a powerful marketing tool that provides a platform for Indian businesses and companies to showcase their products and services, therefore enhancing their brand image and visibility.

In a speech read on his behalf by Parliamentary Affairs Principal Secretary, Aurelia Rono during the Indo-East

Africa Trade Expo 2023, Mudavadi cited one of the challenges for nations across the globe: how they provide opportunities for their citizens to lead decent lives and contribute to the economic development of their countries.

“This challenge is confronted through a myriad of initiatives such as social welfare, encouragement of private sector business, and connections for their people,” added Mudavadi, while commending the partnership effort between the RAK, the Federation of Rajasthan Trade & Industry (FORTI), and the Rajasthan Export Promotion Council (REPC).

The Prime CS added that India and Kenya are maritime neighbors, and the bilateral partnership between them has evolved into a robust and multi-faceted partnership marked by increasing trade and investment, regular high-level visits, and extensive people-to-people contacts.

“Trade relations have remained cordial over the years, and both countries have signed agreements on the promotion and protection of trade and investments, such as the India-Kenya Trade Agreement signed in 1981, under which both countries accorded Most Favored Nation (MFN) status to each other,” he reiterated.

Mudavadi observed that Kenya’s Economic Blueprint envisions “a newly industrializing, middle-income Country, providing a high quality of life to all its citizens in a clean and secure environment, followed by a number of India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee (JTC) meetings, the signing of a bilateral Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA), the setting up of a Joint Business Council (JBC), as well as the signing of various Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs).

He assured that the Government is committed to making Kenya an attrac-

tive investment destination in various sectors and has put in place incentives to attract foreign businesses since Kenya is a free market economy that is democratic with a well-developed legal system guaranteeing the security of property rights.

“The country has a relatively well-developed manufacturing base in the Eastern African region. Thus, exposure of Kenyan investors to the agricultural and industrial sectors in India is an investment opportunity to boost the economy and market for Kenyan products,” stated Mudavadi.

At the same time, the High Commissioner of India to Kenya, Ms. Namaga C. Khampa, said that the increase of Indian businesses in Rajasthan strengthens economic interaction with their counterparts in Kenya.

She added that the collaboration reflects the vibrancy, economic activities, and outcome visions of the companies from India and Kenya.

“The economic engagement that we have had in history has endured for some time, continues to propel our ties, and remains our defining pillar of our contemporary partnership,” said Khampa, adding that Kenya is among the largest trading partners for India in Sub-Saharan Africa.

She further said that India is among the top three sources of Direct Foreign Investment (FDI) into Kenya across other sectors.

Khampa underscored that India recognizes Kenya as the largest regional and economic business hub in East Africa and the gateway to other countries in the region.

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# Disciplining Children In A Smart And Healthy Way

By: Lucy Simiyu

@themtkenyetimes

Worth Noting:

- What is important is that you focus all your attention on the child and turn off distractions like the TV and phones
- Praise the positives. As parents we often focus on our children's bad behaviour and call it out. This sometimes tends to reinforce bad behavior as the child sees it as a way of getting attention.
- Children thrive on praise as it makes them feel loved and special. Watch out for good behavior no matter how trivial and praise the child.
- Set clear and realistic expectations when you instruct a child. Telling your child exactly what you want them to do is much more effective and increases the likelihood that they will do as they are asked.



Lucy Simiyu

Most parents at some point struggle with how best to discipline their children. Whether it is a two-year old with tantrums, or an angry teenager, the issue is very real.

Most will resort to shouting and hitting which do not work and can do more harm than good in the long run.

An alternative is the positive discipline approach which puts emphasis on developing a healthy relationship with your child and setting expectations around behaviour. How can this be achieved?

Plan one-on-one time to build a good relationship with your child. This does not have to be too much time on any given day. What one can do is simply dance to some music, play a game, or perform chores like washing dishes or washing the family car together.

What is important is that you focus all your attention on the child and turn off distractions like the TV and phones

Praise the positives. As parents we often focus on our children's bad behaviour and call it out. This sometimes tends to reinforce bad behavior

as the child sees it as a way of getting attention.

Children thrive on praise as it makes them feel loved and special. Watch out for good behavior no matter how trivial and praise the child.

Set clear and realistic expectations when you instruct a child. Telling your child exactly what you want them to do is much more effective and increases the likelihood that they will do as they are asked.

Be realistic with your expectations as you know what your child is capable of; but if you ask for the impossible, they are going to fail.

Explain calmly the consequences of bad behavior to your child. Part of growing up is learning that if you do something wrong, something can happen as a result. Defining this for your child is a simple process that encourages better behaviour while teaching them about responsibility.

Warning a child about the consequences of bad behavior gives him/her the opportunity to change their behavior.

If they don't stop, it is important to follow through with the consequenc-

es firmly and without showing anger. If they do stop, give them lots of praise. Being consistent is a key factor in positive parenting.

Distracting your child with a more positive activity when they are being difficult is a useful strategy in disciplining kids. This can be done by changing the topic, introducing a game, leading them into another room, or going for a walk. Doing this diverts their energy towards positive behavior.

Timing is also crucial. Distraction only works if you know your child well enough to spot when things are about to go wrong and take action. Being mindful of when your child is starting to become fidgety, irritable or annoyed, or when two siblings are eyeing the same toy, can help diffuse a potential situation before it blows up.

While engaging the younger children might be easy, the older children (teenagers) may be more challenging. Their one-on-one time may be different, like going camping together, watching a game or a musical concert, or discussing their favourite

artist.

While setting expectations, it is good to ask them to help with the rules and the consequences of unacceptable behavior. This helps them know that their parents understand they are becoming independent beings who can make decisions.

With the stresses of day to day living, it is important for parents to pause, or to take a step back whenever they are disciplining children. Disciplining in anger can have drastic consequences and the damage inflicted whether verbal or physical, cannot be undone.

*Lucy Simiyu, Crawford International School Psychologist.*

# DP Gachagua Pledges Implementation Of Tea Sector Reforms By Farmers

By: Capital Correspondent

Worth Noting:

- “The Act is comprehensive and can help our farmers earn better. Even as we make the amendments, we will enforce the Act because if it had been implemented as effected we would have already dealt with the challenges halfway and we would now be dealing with the remaining part right,” said Mr Gachagua.
- Through Executive Order 1 of 2023, the Deputy President has been tasked by President William Ruto with turning around the fortunes of farmers in the Coffee, Tea and Dairy subsectors. The Tea Conference is being held after the Coffee Summit in Meru last month. The Summits are meant to bring respective stakeholders together to agree on the best intervening measures to make the sectors profitable to the farmers.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua .

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua yesterday undertook to oversee full implementation of proposals by tea farmers to strengthen the sector as the government rolls out comprehensive reforms to turn it around.

The DP also promised immediate implementation of the Tea Act, 2020 to ensure reforms spelt out in the law are back on track after being frustrated by the previous government.

Speaking when he opened the two-day national Tea Reforms Conference at Kericho Golf Club in Kericho town, the Deputy President said the meeting was geared towards streamlining the sector in order to improve farmers’ earnings.

“I give an undertaking that the reforms we are going to agree on, our two Houses of Parliament where we have the majority members will pass the needed amendments into law and thereafter we will ensure a 100% compliance with the law. This is part of our Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda,” said the DP.

Gachagua urged the participants who included farmers, leaders and

other stakeholders to freely make contributions adding that the conference had been specifically organized to listen to them as the reforms are implemented.

“I want to invite you to be honest and brutally truthful. Be free to tell us where the challenges are. This is the last conversation we are going to have about tea. We cannot keep saying these things every year. It is the time to tell us the oppressors, who are frustrating you and we will act on them,” urged the DP.

The DP praised Kericho Senator Aaron Cheruiyot for sponsoring the Tea Act but said the law that was to revive the sector had been frustrated by those who served in the government previously.

“The Act is comprehensive and can help our farmers earn better. Even as we make the amendments, we will enforce the Act because if it had been implemented as effected we would have already dealt with the challenges halfway and we would now be dealing with the remaining part right,” said Mr Gachagua.

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The DP said the tea farmers must be the happiest in the production chain because they are the heart of it.

“The tea plantations are beautiful. It is a sight to behold. Besides, beauty is misery for the farmer. We are here to consult and speak the truth. We must get a solution because we must find a way for the farmer to get the highest pay,” the DP said.

In spite of Kenya producing distinct flavours of tea, Mr Gachagua said marketing of the products do not take care of farmers’ interests.

“The farmer has no power to determine the price yet this is a much-sought commodity across the globe even when sold raw. The farmer who puts in the most effort earns

the least. The pyramid is inverted against the farmer. The farmer is struggling economically,” he said.

Present were Cabinet Secretaries Mithika Linturi (Agriculture) Kipchumba Murkomen (Roads and Transport), Governors Dr Eric Mutai (Kericho), Dr Hillary Barchok (Bomet), Cecily Mbarire (Embu), Stephen Sang (Nandi), Wisley Rotich (Elgeyo-Marakwet), Senators Cheruiyot, Wakili Sigei (Bomet), Kathuri Murungi (Meru), Karungo wa Thangwa (Kiambu), Tabitha Keroche (Nakuru), Kamau Murango (Kirinyaga) and MPs.

Agriculture Cabinet Secretary Mithika Linturi said it was time to put a smile on the faces of farmers.

“Kenya produces one of the best tea globally, but cannot attract good prices for our farmers. We must come up with ideas to take advantage of our tea to maximise earnings. We will support the farmer to access subsidized fertilizer to lower the cost of production,” said Mr Linturi.

Cheruiyot welcomed the Summit saying it will help consolidate the proposed reforms to make the sector better.

“This is a perfect opportunity to solidify solutions to the industry. We are here in Kericho to listen to the farmer because the Kenya Kwanza Administration approach is Bottom-Up,” he said.

Kericho Governor Eric Mutai urged the DP to press on with the reforms saying they will support him in the counties.

Farmers welcomed the reforms saying once implemented farmers will get better pay and improve their lives.

“We need to relook into the guaranteed minimum returns and ensure local factories adhere to it. Farmers are suffering in tea farms. We look forward to the implementation of the Tea Act as promised by the Deputy President. This will help our farmers earn more,” said Charles Chirchir, tea farmer from Bomet.

They said improved earnings will help them meet their needs without struggle.

“We have been in tea farming for over 40 years. But returns have been very low. We are struggling to educate our children. We are confident that with the entry of the Deputy President into the reforms, we will earn more. All cartels must be eliminated for the farmer to get their rightful share,” said Mr Kinoti Kirigia, a farmer.

# Discipline Of Romance And Time



By: Eric Musa  
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

In 1986 Psychology Today did a survey of 300 couples, asking them what keeps them together. One of the major “staying” factors was time spent together. Make sure you maintain this priority. Your calendar reveals what is important to you, so write her calendar into yours. Schedule weekly times together that do not just “happen.” Be creative. Date! Surprise her. Be extravagant.

Men, when was the last time you opened the door for her . . . said “I love you” . . . complimented her . . . wrote her a loving note . . . sent her flowers . . . “dated” her . . . gave her extraspecial attention? Many other

“disciplines” could be named, most of which are implicit in what we have said — for example, tenderness, sensitivity, patience — but the bottom line is to work at it. In the fire of new love, marriage seems as easy as falling off a log. Actually, it is as easy as staying on a log. It requires careful attention, developed skill, and work.

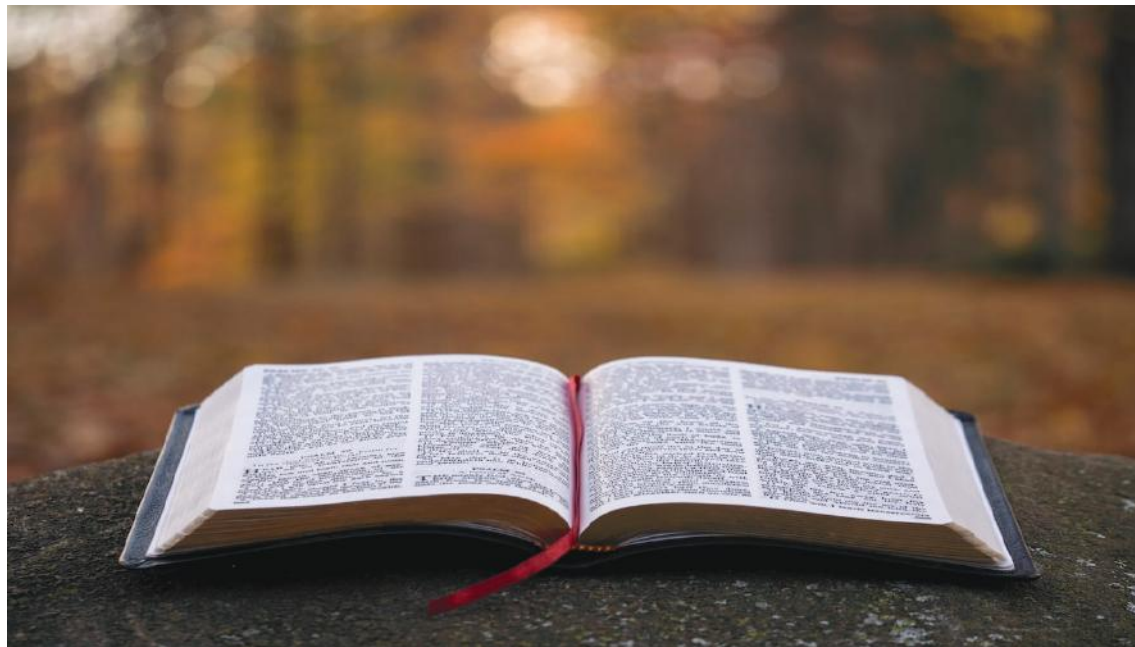
Men, are you working on the second most important relationship of your life (God is first)? Sweat any lately? No perspiration, no progress. No pain, no gain. Let us bow to God’s Word: “[A]ct like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love” (1 Corinthians 16:13, 14, NASB) Discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness.

OH GOD, YOU WHO IS ALWAYS FAITHFUL, LEAD US INTO YOUR WAY EVERLASTING.

References:

The Living Bible

Discipline of a Godly Man( Book by Kent Hughes)



**Evangelist Eric Musa:**

(My message continuously: If you are not saved: Believe, accept, receive and confess Christ Jesus as your Lord and Saviour and be filled with the Holy Spirit, as it is written;

“NOW is the acceptable time, TODAY is the day of SALVATION.- 2 Cor 6:2”. For prayers, devotion, and to support the ministry contact Evangelist on +254722157300 (Email: EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com). Re-

member, God Loves you and I unconditionally, perfectly and always: SHALOM.

# Task Force Reviewing Religious Laws Hopeful Occultism Will Be Eliminated

By: Kibe Mburu and Elyne Chepkirui  
 @themtkenyatiimes

The task force on the review of the legal and regulatory framework governing religious organisations has expressed hope that the era of religious extremism that leads to occultism will be eliminated if Government adopts the recommendations of the task force.

The Task Force led by Bishop Mark Kariuki of Deliverance Church listened to submissions from a public participation forum at ACK Holy Trinity church in Kericho and took note of proposals tabled before the committee on changes required to curtail religious extremist organisations in the country.

Participants in the forum included interreligious leaders, professionals, the civil society, among other members of the public who voiced their views on ways to curtail the rising occultist culture that impacted negatively on innocent Kenyans, citing the recent horrific



The Task Force team.

Shakahola Massacre perpetrated by a self-proclaimed pastor. Bishop Kariuki who addressed the

press after the forum said the task force would continue engaging the public in various forums before submitting a final

report which would be adopted to guide the operation of religious institutions in the country.

“There is hope that the cultism will end. The government is not out to choke anyone or the church and no church is under any investigations but are looking for ways of eliminating extremism and rationalism,” said Bishop Kariuki

He further explained that the mandate of the task force is identifying loopholes that have allowed extremist religious organisations to mushroom in the country and thereafter formulate a legal framework that will avert the emergence of radical religious entities from operating in Kenya.

The task force is conducting public participation forums across the counties for six months before submitting its final report.

The committee’s final report will inform standards to be used in the issuance of certificates to various religious organisations within the country.

The committee members of the task force comprised Bishop Kariuki, Bishop (Dr) Eli Rop, Archbishop Maurice Muhatia, Judy Thongori, Rev (Dr) Alphonse Kanga, Bishop Philip Kitoto, and Dr Faridun Abdalla.

# Kioni Would Not Be Putting A Sufuria On His Head If He Landed A Job At EALA



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com

## Worth Noting:

- Today, Raila is hoping to take advantage of the controversial Finance Bill 2023, now an Act, to lit the fire of defiance across the country. I doubt he will succeed. Going by his recent moves of slowing down his campaigns, Kenyans are starting to question his commitment to push their interest. If he meant well, he could have organized the forums to oppose the Bill before being tabled, debated and passed by parliament. It is now law after the President assented to it.
- Raila is coming out when it is too late. Could it turn out he has already eaten something? That is why he kept quiet during that period.



Former Ndaragwa MP Jeremiah Kioni .

Former Ndaragwa MP Jeremiah Kioni is arguably the most vocal and a leading footsoldier of the Azimio La Umoja-OKA leader Raila Odinga in Mount Kenya region.

I'm sure he is raring to join Baba Raila tomorrow at Kamukunji grounds for the commemoration of the Saba Saba.

This day we remember the brutality meted on the leading lights in the clamor for multi party democracy and thier diehard supporters.

This is after they defied the police order banning the Kamukunji rally scheduled for July 7, 1990.

Seemingly, the heavily armed security forces had been instructed by their seniors to use all means at their disposal to stop them from accessing the ground.

In the ensuing running battles and confrontations, the police at some point were overwhelmed by surging agitated and charging crowds. They resorted to using live bullets killing dozens of the protestors.

As expected, the opposition leaders pointed thier fingers at then President Daniel Arap Moi. They accused him of using the police to unleash terror on innocent citizens.

Kenyans have a right to chart the destiny of thier country. We want to tell Moi that he cannot stop an idea whose time has come.

One year later, President Moi caved in to mounting pressure and allowed

the repeal of Section 2A of the constitution paving way for reintroduction of multi-party democracy.

If you ask me, Kenyans at the time fought for a worth cause. The clamor was hinged on making Kenya a better place to live for all of us. It was anchored on achieving three main goals; expansion of democracy, good governance and social justice.

Today, things have changed. The opposition politicians have become pretenders. They would talk tough alleging that the government had abandoned 'Wanjiku' (ordinary Kenyans) and hence it deserves to be removed from power but in the actual sense were out to push for thier selfish and personal interest.

They know that President William Ruto is a hard nut to crack.

This is unlike former President Mwai Kibaki and his successor Uhuru Kenyatta.

So, forcing Ruto to address thier personal demands is not a walk in the park.

They can only succeed if they are able to mobilize majority of Kenyans to support their 'cause'.

This explains why you have been hearing them vehemently denying they were angling themselves for a 'Nusu Mkate' (a half bread government).

They know that Kenyans would immediately abandon them if it dawned on them that this was their intention.

Tomorrow's Saba Saba rally is de-

signed to push the same selfish agenda of Azimio leader and his running mates.

Take note of this. Previously, Raila did not see the importance of this day. As a result, it was marked as a low-keyed and at times passed unnoticed.

Today, Raila is hoping to take advantage of the controversial Finance Bill 2023, now an Act, to lit the fire of defiance across the country. I doubt he will succeed. Going by his recent moves of slowing down his campaigns, Kenyans are starting to question his commitment to push their interest. If he meant well, he could have organized the forums to oppose the Bill before being tabled, debated and passed by parliament. It is now law after the President assented to it.

Raila is coming out when it is too late. Could it turn out he has already eaten something? That is why he kept quiet during that period.

With due respect, I want to ask Raila this question. If you could have won the elections, where would you have gotten money to run your government? No miracle, No shortcut. You would have resorted to taxing Kenyans, the same thing that Ruto is doing.

Back to Kioni, I'm sure tomorrow he will mince no word in hitting out at the President and his deputy.

For starters, Kioni was one of those eyeing the position of a member of East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA).

By virtue of being the Secretary General of the Jubilee Party, he had high expectations that he will get it.

The mainstream media was awash with stories of strategies he employed to lobby MPs within precinct of Parliament and outside to support his candidature.

For Azimio members, he seemed to have a sense of entitlement that all of them will vote for him.

He, however, realized at some point that he was just deceiving himself.

Majority of members did not believe in him as he thought. This was indeed a big setback.

Former Kieni MP Kanini Kega, who was his rival, emerged as the winner after garnering the highest number of votes.

Sometimes, Kioni unveiled a Sufuria as the symbol of his anti-Ruto campaign.

When I see him with a Sufuria on his head, I ask this question. If he landed a job at EALA, would he do this? Many believe the answer is a Big No.

Today, Kioni is pretending that he is fighting for Wanjiku. For how long the politicians will make fools out of us?

Kenyans have been learning big lessons. Moving forward, I doubt they will accept to be taken for a ride anymore.

Joseph Mutua Ndonga is a writer and political analyst based in Nairobi

# To Reform The World, Start By Changing Yourself

By: N. George  
 @themtkenyetimes

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## Worth Noting:

- When we talk of social norms which refer to shared standards of acceptable behavior by members of a society both those codified into laws as well as the informal ones.
- The interconnectivity bit of social norms can be seen here that is why they are shared by many persons. The involved parties are required to show cooperation meaning that they need to be included and helped to actively participate towards development of the society and their contribution is taken into consideration when crafting the rules and regulations.



*To reform a world, to reform a nation, no wise man will undertake; and all but foolish men know, that the only solid, though a far slower reformation, is what each begins and perfects on himself..... Thomas Carlyle.*

The current world population is excess of 7.8 billion mind you no one is a hundred percent like the other including the identical twins. Such uniqueness like in iris and finger prints help the authorities as well as general population to differentiate one person from the other.

Those with excessive ego will think that they are more important than the rest of the people hence be condemning whatever the rest are doing whereas they want everyone to heap praises to them no matter how awkward his actions are.

An analysis of those people with excessive ego you will realise that it is out of personal weakness that they underrate the rest of the people. They indeed require help from other quarters to know their responsibilities and boundaries. They also need to know contribution of others in their lives and it is out of this that they will appreciate the contribution of others.

The ones with low self-esteem keep condemning themselves feeling that they are not at par with others. They undermine themselves. Unaware to them is that everyone is important has own strengths and weaknesses they too have their niche in the world and can make a contribution in the world. When we talk of social norms which refer to shared standards of acceptable behavior by members of a society both those codified into laws as well as the informal ones.

The interconnectivity bit of social norms can be seen here that is why they are shared by many persons. The involved parties are required to show cooperation meaning that they need to be included and helped to actively participate towards development of the society and their contribution is taken into consideration when crafting the rules and regulations.

When you have just little tangible things that you own to show any attempt to sell an agenda to the public will be ignored unless they perceive you to own a lot but out of secrecy failing to show case your economic muscles.

Being underrated by others will

make them to miss opportunities that you advocate for no matter how good and life changing they might be. Would you be seriously interested in helping others transform their lives for better you need to self-evaluate then fashion yourself in a way that will be attractive to them.

Not many people would be willing to listen to your theoretical teachings in life especially if they are not aware of how successful you are even those who listen to you few if any are willing to implement whatever they have heard from you.

An easy way to transform the lives of others is to demonstrate what is good to be done once those who knew you before the change once they compare you with the current status they will be more than willing to emulate you.

Never blame others for not following your theories. This is due to the selfish nature of all human beings so whenever they hear you advocate for something they think you stand to benefit most from whatever you are doing though that is not usually the case.

Think of invention or innovation usually it is a single person idea

people rarely supported in its development stage even when called upon to assist. It fails to gain fame in the development phases even upon completion few will wish to be associated with the product.

However, there are few who would not mind giving your product a trial when they succeed during that trial many more will be willing to adopt it without being persuaded any further.

Lead by example; let your work and lifestyle demonstrate what your philosophy in life is that is true leadership where you pioneer in doing things instead of waiting for other people to do something then you emulate them.

Become that role model that others follow eventually whatever you successfully do will be replicated by others and that is how you would change the world.

# We’re Keen On Fencing All Gazetted Forests, CS Tuya Says

By: Capital Correspondent

Continued from page 1



Worth Noting:

- The Cabinet Secretary spoke on Wednesday in Marsabit during a meeting with community forest association on the first day of her two-day working visit of the County at the Marsabit Kenya Forest Service (KFS) office.
- At the same time, CS Tuya appealed to forest adjacent communities to participate more actively in conservation activities saying the Government won’t succeed in its ecosystem restoration efforts without their support.
- “I know we won’t succeed without collaboration and good relations with communities. We must collaborate. You are our eyes. You’re the owners of the environment,” CS Tuya said.
- She said the Government had mounted a major crackdown on logging and all forms of illegal forest activities starting in Mau forest complex before moving onto other forest ecosystems across the country.



Environment, Climate Change and Forestry Cabinet Secretary Soipan Tuya

Kenya. We’re looking for partners to back up Government funding for fencing of all forests across the country,” she announced.

The Cabinet Secretary spoke on Wednesday in Marsabit during a meeting with community forest association on the first day of her two-day working visit of the County at the Marsabit Kenya Forest Service (KFS) office.

At the same time, CS Tuya appealed to forest adjacent communities to participate more actively in conservation activities saying the Government won’t succeed in its ecosystem restoration efforts without their support.

“I know we won’t succeed without collaboration and good relations with communities. We must collaborate. You are our eyes. You’re the owners of the environment,” CS Tuya said.

She said the Government had mounted a major crackdown on logging and all forms of illegal forest activities starting in Mau forest complex before moving onto other forest ecosystems across the country.

“People who imagine that our forests

are available for encroachment should forget it. We have started an operation, starting in Mau, a place called Sururu and we will go to all forests,” CS Tuya said as she challenged KFS to enhance surveillance against illegal forest activities.

“We can’t employ more rangers and then have more illegalities. The reason we are employing more rangers is to enhance enforcement. We have to phase out all illegal forest activities.

“We can’t be pushing for the growing of 15 billion trees while at the same time losing more trees to illegal activities. We can’t be engaged in a zero sum game,” the CS cautioned.

Once again, the Cabinet Secretary reminded Government agencies of their targets as set out in the 15 billion national tree growing programme saying her Ministry will follow up to ensure that the thresholds are met.

CS Tuya also spoke about propagation of adequate seedlings to support the 15 billion national tree growing programme saying her Ministry was working with Kenya Forestry Research Institute (KEFRI) to produce

enough seeds to support the initiative.

Alongside production of adequate tree seeds, CS Tuya said KEFRI had been tasked to undertake ecological species matching to ensure that Kenyans grow trees best suited for their ecological zones.

“We’re working with KEFRI, which is a scientific institution in my Ministry, to undertake species matching so that, if it is Marsabit, we know the right species for this area,” the CS said, adding that 30 percent of all seeds produced will be fruit and nut species to support agroforestry.

To accelerate the tree growing initiative, CS Tuya said her Ministry through KFS was in the process of recruiting youth to participate in the 15 billion national tree initiative through a programme dubbed ‘green army’.

“Green army are youth who will assist the Government in propagation of seedlings and growing of trees,” CS Tuya said as she promised transparency in the ongoing national recruitment exercise saying priority will be given to locals.

On wetlands conservation, the CS

said the Government was keen on mapping and fencing wetlands across the country so as to use their water for all-year tree growing activities.

Other speakers at the meeting were NEMA DG Mr Mamo Mamo and Marsabit County MP Hon Naomi Waqo who decried the increasing encroachment of Marsabit Forest and called for concerted efforts to conserve the county’s forests.

Alongside forest conservation, Hon Waqo, who is accompanying the CS on the 2-day visit, called for enhanced security patrols around Marsabit Forest saying the forest had become a den for armed bandits who maim and kill locals.

Today, CS Tuya, who is accompanied by several senior Government officials among them NEMA Board Chairman Mr Emilio Mugo, will visit several wetland conservation projects in North Horr sub-county and address a public baraza in the area.

## The Opening Of The Blind Spring...



Today the weather is very clear. Life is beautiful and flawless as if this world is made up of only colors that mean happiness.

Today my heart is beating with happiness because I am a student! The first happy moments of being a student! When I entered the university, I walked proudly (because I studied very hard until I came here).

I did not achieve this by myself. It was at this moment that I made the most terrible mistake. The reason is that one day when I was coming down from the 5th floor, a beautiful girl in a very nice dress was coming up towards me we left. To tell the truth, I was very angry. "Repentance!" I said. Yes, that girl's eyes were really weak... I understood this, and I wanted to apologize, she said sorry before me.

I told her that I don't like any girls. But I kept looking behind her. I was so angry with myself that the reasons why I was crying and saying that I was unhappy were a drop from the sea in front of this girl's eyes. I realized that I was so ungrateful and a slave that day...

Later I heard another story about that girl. When they were young, they dreamed of becoming a doctor and treating people by operating. They said that there is a 5% chance that you will see it. It's interesting, there is a dream, but the path of a person's life is really closed, and this is probably what it means to give in to fate.

However, they still submitted documents to the direction that their strength and abilities can reach. If you can be patient... If my eyes hurt because I use the phone a lot, why do I keep saying that? Not being able to see the light all my life is a real tragedy.

However, one cannot go against what God has written. That's when I realized that the things that I was burned and saddened are actually happiness and blessings. I always have read the dark interests of life, but I have never found happiness. In fact, every step I take is happiness. I was so sad. I was truly sad in this life, Lord.

I am Gulrang Jabborova, I was born on April 10, 2004 in Shafirkon district of Bukhara region. I am a student of the 1st stage of the Faculty of Journalism of the National University of Uzbekistan.

I am a member of Pakistan's Iqra Foundation.

I am a member of the international writers' organization "Juntos por las Letras" of Portugal. I am also a member of the Human rights and humanitarian Federation. And I am an international member of the Egyptian Cultural Art Creative Forum and the International Peace Forum. Moreover, I am a participant of "Parvaz" youth forum, "Talented youth forum", "Unity forum", "Forum of our 21st century" I'm member of Golden Wing volunteer team.

## Friendship



By: Toshurdiyev Nurbek

Friendship means Friendship and closeness. Friendship is a very complicated thing, but at the same time it gives many, many memories. True Friendship is eternal, but Friendship that benefits everything is a little harmful. We don't get to decide what family we're born into, do we? Our parents, brothers, sisters, etc. like, but yes, of course we can choose our second family of friends, so we always have to be very protective, mature and smart and make good people friends. Friends can change a person from good to bad or even from bad to good; the most important thing is Friendship. We should find limited friends and be loyal to them instead of friends who gossip instead of helping or supporting you in your absence. Friends make our life interesting; they fill our lives with many memories. Friendship is a relationship of mutual trust and confidence between two or more people who are emotionally connected and have a friendly relationship with each other. We literally can't live our whole life alone, so for a happy life called Friendship we need two or more people reliable relationship in short; we need to have friends in our life so that our life is not boring.

Friendship is not limited by people's age, that is, a small child can be good friends with his grandfather or any old person. People can be friends with animals

because they feel animals are more reliable than people; in short people can share Friendship with things that make them feel good. Everyone needs a friend to share their feelings with, which may include sadness and joy. Good friends help overcome fear.

True, pure and good Friendship is the most precious gift of life. One should be very lucky, if you have a good friend, you should feel special and lucky because there are very few people who have this blessing.

Friendship is something that no one wants to lose. True Friendship gives us unforgettable memories and many sweet experiences. It is very difficult to find a good friend, if we find a good friend it will make our life a paradise, if we have a bad friend it will make our life hard and ugly like hell.

Some are lucky enough to carry their childhood friends with them throughout their lives because childhood friends know each other better, but some lose their friendships due to misunderstandings, distance or other issues. Friends are our family apart from our family, the home that gave us the best memories of our life.

Toshurdiyev Nurbek 1st year student of the National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek Friendship

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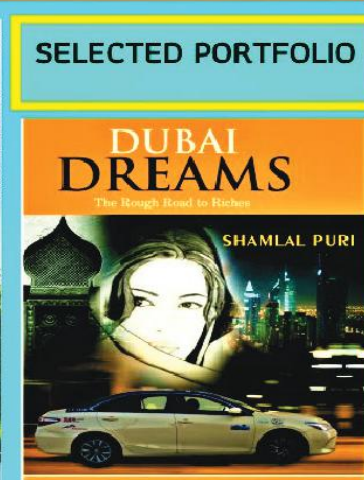
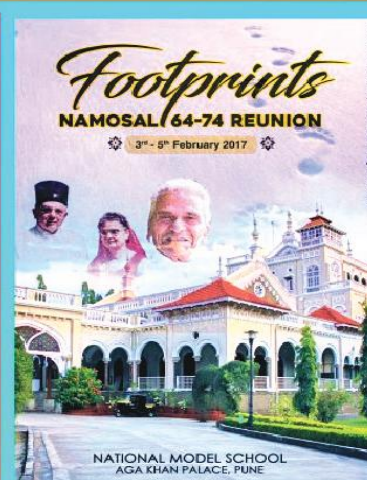
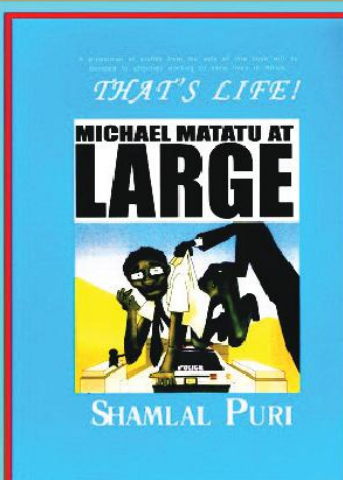
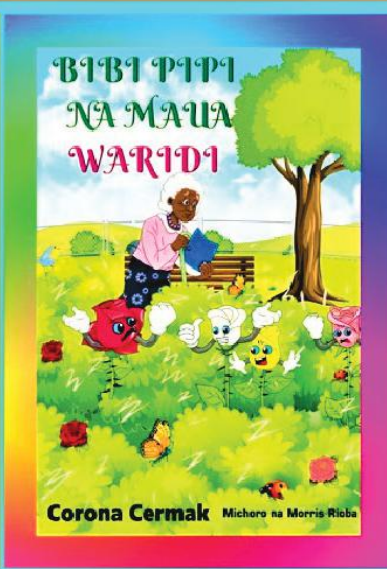
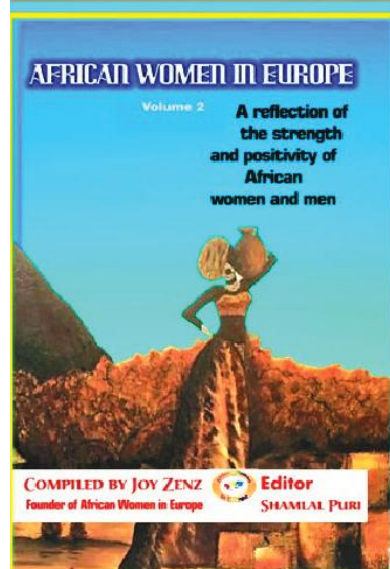
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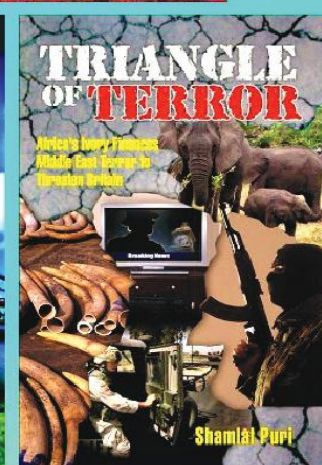
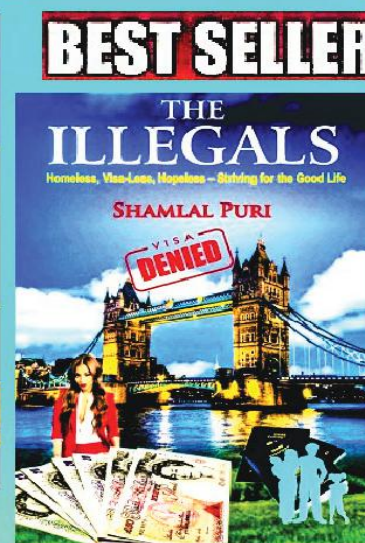
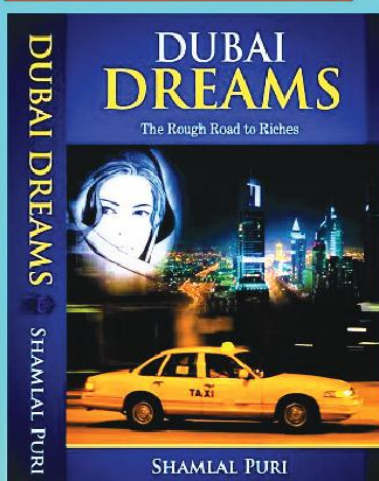
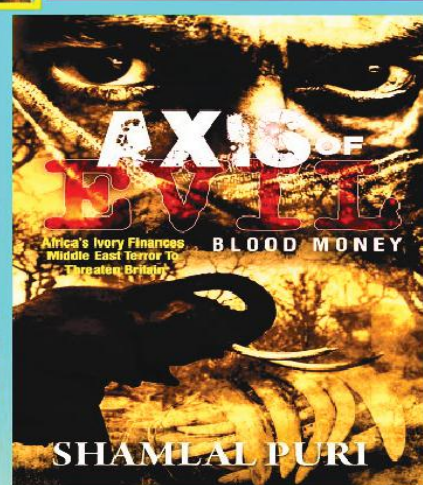
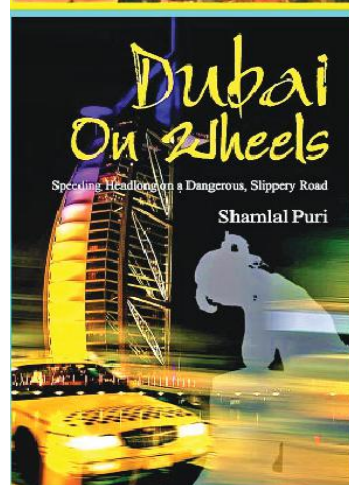
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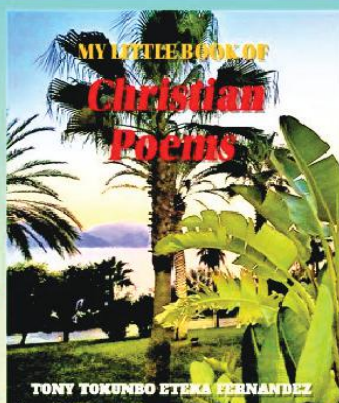
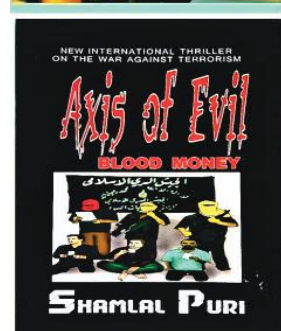
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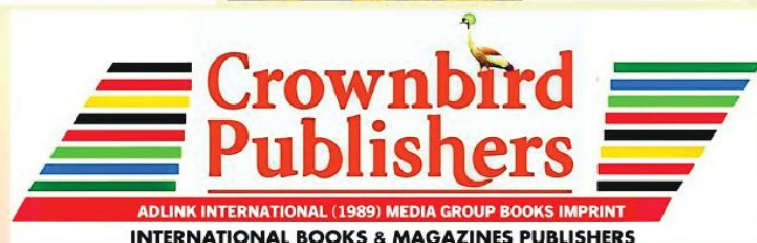


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## CLIMATE

# State Provides Finance Mechanism Programme To Mitigate Effects Of Climate Change

By: Peace Muthoka and Ali Sheikh Mohammed  
 @themtkenyetimes

## Worth Noting:

- Mudavadi pointed out that low-emission continents with massive untapped natural resources including renewable energy potential, and the world's youngest and fastest growing workforce, makes Africa a very cost-competitive location for deploying green manufacturing and industrial capacity and removing carbon at scale.
- The Prime CS made these remarks during the opening of the Berlin Climate and Security Conference (BCSC) on climate change summit in Nairobi where he stated that the African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council has underlined the importance of adopting a climate-sensitive planning dimension to peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction missions, and in development efforts to prevent any relapse to armed conflicts in fragile communities.



Special Representative for International Climate Policy of the Federal Republic of Germany, State Secretary Ms Jennifer Morgan and Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi during the forum...

The Government has released funds to help redefine the climate change phenomenon through the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action Programme (FLLOCA) in order to strengthen local resilience and achieve significant and sustainable progress in the war against climate change.

Kenya is the first African country to enact a Climate Change Act back in 2006 and one of the first to enact laws at the sub-national level (County Governments) that will make significant strides in the effort to combat climate change

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi said the government has taken the whole of its approach in the spirit of leaving no one behind and building synergies to address climate change on a scale, including mainstreaming climate change in government programs and projects.

"To respond adequately to climate-related risks to peace and security, Kenya has already taken steps to strengthen coordination across different sectors, and the institutional infrastructure to better understand

and channel climate finance to build resilience for peace," Mudavadi remarked.

He also added that in the Horn of Africa, climate change risks have adversely affected the pastoralist communities who compete over declining natural resources that often result in intercommunal conflicts, forced migration, displacements, and deaths.

"Here in Africa, climate change is a threat multiplier that has become a major deterrent of peaceful co-existence among communities within and across borders," he observed, adding that the National Drought Management Authority gives early warning systems, and response to climate-related disasters and risks in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs).

Further, Mudavadi pointed out that low-emission continents with massive untapped natural resources including renewable energy potential, and the world's youngest and fastest growing workforce, makes Africa a very cost-competitive location for deploying green manufacturing and industrial capacity and removing carbon at scale.

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Also speaking at the event, the Special Representative for International Climate Policy of the Federal Republic of Germany, State Secretary Ms Jennifer Morgan, said that the climate crisis remains the biggest challenge of security threats since it affects humanity and biodiversity.

She added that in the year 2019, Kenya started the Berlin Forum on climate, and last year, Kenya launched a climate action plan which aimed to strengthen the country's path towards sustainable, climate-resilient development while achieving low carbon climate resilient development.

"Climate is one of the biggest threats

in the country since it affects food production, resources, and immigration of people from different countries, therefore, the government has decided to make climate a natural pillar," stressed Morgan.

She at the same time said the developed countries are shifting investment to climate change mitigation.

Further, Morgan disclosed her country is working with other countries to establish global renewable energy so as to realize the benefits and impact it has on African countries.

"Kenya has a more interpreted concept of security to address the refugees that are extremely affected by conflicts that climate change issues have perilously contributed to," she lauded.

The Summit aims to break new ground by redefining the narrative on climate change and innovative ways of mobilizing climate financing with scale and urgency to achieve significant and sustainable progress in the war against climate change.

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# Government To Scale Up School Meals Program

By: Fatuma Said  
@themtkenyatimes

As Kenya looks forward to engaging in the next phase of collaboration under the second WFP CSP (2023-2027), the Ministry of Education will focus more on scaling up school meals programs, enhancing policy and regulatory frameworks, and applying technology to improve service delivery.

The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Ezekiel Machogu said that the ministry is also aiming to foster deeper cross-sectoral integration, recognizing that challenges like food security, education, health, and climate resilience are deeply interconnected.

Speaking during the Kenya and World Food Program Partnership Coordination Workshop, Machogu said that the partnership with WFP extends beyond the realm of education.

“The shared dedication to improving the lives of Kenyans and refugees has helped us to work in various sectors such as health, agriculture, and disaster management,” Machogu noted.



Stakeholders who attended the forum.

“This broad-spectrum approach aligns perfectly with the Government’s Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) which is aimed at enhancing manufacturing, universal healthcare, affordable housing, and food security,” he added.

Machogu highlighted that the partnership also extends beyond the Schools Meals Programme explaining that they have been working

hard to provide emergency food assistance and improve access to water for production in arid and semi-arid areas.

“Over the years, the program has significantly improved school attendance, retention, transition, and completion rates, particularly in arid and semi-arid counties with a high prevalence of malnutrition,” Machogu said.

He noted that the partnership has

also strengthened the resilience of the communities against the impact of climate change, and improved food security through innovative agricultural initiatives.

“Our collaboration with WFP on the school meals program has evolved over the years, transitioning from a full donor-funded model to a shared model and eventually to a Government-led and in many instances co-financed program,” Machogu

explained.

The Education CS said that in recent years under the 2018-2023 CSP, WFP had focused on building the capacity of both National and County Systems, enhancing programmed efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability.

Moving forward, the CS said that they have combined efforts with WFP and have identified three broad Key Result Areas.

“The first area centers on refugees, asylum seekers, and food insecure populations in emergency contexts within Kenya and we have agreed that the technical teams will define programs and activities that ensure the populations receive equitable access to adequate, safe, and nutritious food,” Machogu said.

He added that by 2027 the partnership aims to offer these groups a pathway to inclusive, gender-responsive, and nutrition-sensitive as well as make them self-reliant.

The Second Key Result Area targets food-insecure and risk-prone populations particularly women and youth in rural and urban communities while the third is dedicated to strengthening systems at the national and county levels toward social protection and disaster risk management.

# Senators Join The Executive To Ensure Law Enforcement For Tea Farmers To Reap Maximum Profits

By: John Kariuki  
@themtkenyatimes

The Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, led by Kirinyaga Senator James Kamau Murango, joined the Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua who chaired the two-day Tea Reforms Conference at the Kericho Golf Club, Kericho County.

The Conference aims at providing a platform for tea farmers to address the challenges plaguing the sector and brainstorm on possible solutions and, gives the small-scale farmers an opportunity to engage with the stakeholders including the top government leaders, Members of Parliament who are the lawmakers to gain a better understanding of the tea sector.

Senators participating in the Summit are; Deputy Speaker Sen. Kathu-

ri Murungi, Majority Leader Sen. Aaron Cheruiyot, , Deputy Majority Leader Sen. Tabitha Karanja, , Embu Sen. Alexander Mundingi. , Bungoma Sen. David Wakoli, , Nyeri County Sen. Wahome Wamatinga, , Trans Nzoia County Sen. Allan Chesang, , Bomet County Sen. Wakili Hillary Sigei, , Murang’a County Sen. Joe Nyutu, and Members of the National Assembly.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua .



# Kenya Will Be Food Secure In A Few Years Through Irrigation Agriculture - Koskei

By: Emmanuel Masha  
@themtkenyatimes

The government is optimistic that the shift from rain-fed agriculture to irrigation as well as the use of public-private partnerships in food production will make the country food secure within a few years.

The Head of the Public Service, Felix Koskei said that Kenya has good soils and a lot of water which if well utilized would revolutionize agriculture and remove Kenya from the list of nations that are food insecure.

He said the government was in the process of reviving and expanding existing irrigation schemes across the country to achieve food security and even export surplus food.

Mr. Koskei was speaking at the Galana/Kulalu Food Security Project in Kilifi and Tana River Counties during an inspection tour of the multi-billion project being implemented by the National Irrigation Authority alongside the private sector.

He visited a 500-acre plantation which is being implemented through the joint efforts of the National Irrigation Authority and Twiga Foods Limited where the acreage would be increased to 1,000 acres within the

next few weeks and eventually up to 200,000 acres.

He said the aim of the government is to open up the over one million acres of land within the Galana/Kulalu area for food production, adding that the project that started about ten years ago is on course.

Mr. Koskei said the government would concentrate on providing infrastructure while private sector players invest in production, a policy shift he said was faster and more efficient.

“The policy of government now is, after a long time where the government was struggling to do investment and trying to do production, we are working very closely with the private sector to provide infrastructure while the private sector invests in production,” he said.

“This initiative here is a joint venture between the National Irrigation Authority and Twiga Foods which has come in a big way to do production while the authority is working on the infrastructure, and we have seen it is faster and more efficient,” he added.

Mr. Koskei, who was in the company of Irrigation Principal Secretary Ephantus Kimotho, NIA Chairman Eng. Gilbert Maluki and NIA Chief Executive Officer Charles Muasia said the government was engaging in full gear to boost production with



Head of Public Service Felix Koskei addressing the media yesterday.

a view to reducing the price of food in the country.

“We have other projects across the country that we are trying to revamp so that is a very short time, this country will be food secure because we have good soils and weather, and now that we are shifting from rain fed agriculture to irrigation, we are sure that Kenya in the not distant future will be food secure and we can even start exporting to other countries,” he said.

Mr. Koskei, who later visited the Tana Delta Irrigation Project be-

ing implemented by the Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority (TARDA) in Tana River County said the government was also concentrating on rice production since the country facing a rice deficit.

“As a matter of fact, Kenya is a rice deficit country and yet we have and yet we have enough land, we have resources to produce, so, we are focusing on rice because we have enough water, we have enough land and we are going to ensure that Tana alone will produce almost 50 percent to 60 percent of our consumption in

this country,” he said.

He said the government would expand and improve Ahero and Mwea irrigation schemes, as well as establish Lower Kuja Irrigation Scheme.

He said his tour, which will see him visit the port of Mombasa, follows a presidential directive that certain initiatives have to be done so that the country can be food secure.

Also present on the tour were Coast Regional Commissioner Rhoda Onyancha and Kilifi County Commissioner Josphat Biwott among others.

# Reclaiming Kajiado Greenery Campaign

By: John Kariuki  
@themtkenyatimes

Kajiado is known to be one of the richest counties of Kenya despite its predominant semi-arid condition. Her people, mainly the Maasai tribe heavily engage in pastoralism, animal rearing and irrigation supported agriculture.

On July 5th 2023, Dedan Kimathi Foundation environment conservation team in Conjunction with Roots for the Future Kajiado Youth based CBO conducted the first phase of Reclaiming Kajiado Greenery campaign. The activity saw a number of homesteads, hospitals, churches and schools benefit from 2000 assorted tree seedlings donated by the foundation in support of the campaign.

Among the beneficiaries of the day were;

1. Olooltepes Primary
2. Olooltepes Church
3. Oloibor Ajijik compassion
4. Olooltepes Hospital
5. Olooltepes Dispensary
6. Osarai Dispensary

Giving his remarks during the activity opening ceremony, Mr. Victor Solitei; Roots for the Future Youth CBO chairman and the St. Paul’s University Student’s president registered his gratitude to the Emaroro ward residents for answering the call to grow trees in Kajiado county. He urged them to set the best example to the rest of the county residents emphasizing that tree growing was no longer an option but a must practice way of life to secure the future.

Dedan Kimathi Foundation Green Army team leader Francis Karasinga

assured the organizing group of the Foundation’s unwavering support to tree growing. “It is a good thing that our people are engaging on tree planting. I beseech you all to ensure that all the trees you have received today are watered sufficiently for proper growth,” he stated.

Emaroro location senior chief committed to enforce tree growing culture in support of the 30% tree cover. Dedan Kimathi Foundation vows to continue supporting tree growing activities to combat climate change.

Also present in the day’s series of activities were; Rotary club of Limuru president, Young Theologians for Climate Action, Emaroro ward MCA, among others.



Dedan Kimathi Foundation environment conservation team in Conjunction with Roots for the Future Kajiado conducting the first phase of Reclaiming Kajiado Greenery campaign.

# KCDF Launches The Young Environmentalist Innovation Challenge

By: Our Reporter  
@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- Speaking during the event, the Chief Guest Mr. Samson Toniok, CEO - National Environment Trust Fund (NetFund) applauded the initiative as timely when the world today is faced by unprecedented environmental crises including the global phenomena of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss.
- "The effects of these global challenges remain stark realities in our day-to-day lives such as frequent droughts, rising waters, extreme weather and flash floods that continue to take the toll on Kenyans and their livelihoods. For this reason, I would like to applaud KCDF for this noble initiative and encourage your continued fostering partnerships for future success of this challenge." He said. On her part, the KCDF Executive Director highlighted the need to embrace and promote innovation in the development sector



Gordon Odundo, KCDF Board Director, Grace Maingi, KCDF Executive Director Samson Toniok, CEO of National Environment Trust Fund (NetFund) and James Gatere, Head of I&M Foundation during the launch of the KCDF Young Environmentalist Innovative Challenge (YEIC)..

The Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF) has today launched the Young Environmentalist Innovative Challenge (YEIC), an environmental innovation fund that aims at developing action-oriented young individuals committed to the conservation of the environment.

The finalists of this challenge will be awarded in two categories; the first category will see three young environment champions awarded a grant of between Ksh. 800,000 to Ksh. 1,500,000, while the second category will have six organizations awarded a grant of between Ksh. 3,000,000 to Ksh. 5,000,000 each implementing their unique environment conservation-based ideas.

YEIC is an environmental innovation fund established by KCDF through the generous gift of Mackenzie Scott to support innovative ideas and solutions that promote environmental conservation, sustainable resource management, and community resilience. KCDF has partnered with the National Environment Trust Fund (NetFund), Green Generation Initiative (GGI), and National Council for Nomadic Education in Kenya (NACONEK) under the Ministry of Educa-

tion, to implement this challenge.

In a ceremony that brought together, youth representatives, the private sector, environment champions, advocates and enthusiasts, the event highlighted the importance of conserving the environment with the involvement of youth as part of the efforts to mitigate the current global challenges like drought and climate change.

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"The effects of these global challenges remain stark realities in our day-to-day lives such as frequent droughts, rising waters, extreme weather and flash floods that continue to take the toll on Kenyans and their livelihoods. For this reason, I would like to applaud KCDF for this noble initiative and encourage your continued fostering partnerships for future success of this challenge." He said. On her part, the KCDF Executive Director highlighted the need to embrace and promote

innovation in the development sector.

"When you give organizations unrestricted funding, innovation comes about. People are able to take the money where it is most needed. One of the key innovations we came up with is YEIC, that challenges the youth and youth organizations to come up with environmental solutions that would advance livelihoods and education. The narrative in the community has been that if we are conserving the environment, livelihoods suffer, and our intention is to burst this myth." Said Ms. Grace Maingi.

Gordon Odundo, a Board Director at KCDF challenged the youth to take lead in conserving the environment. "The youth, this environment is your future, you need to protect it, look after it and participate in the good work of preserving it." He said.

Elizabeth Wathuti the Founder of GGI said that the YEIC challenge was very timely as an empowering platform for the Kenyan youth who continue to face a stiff competition for resources against bigger organizations. Michael Waiyaki, C.E.O and Founder Miti Alliance said that as a community we need to know the difference between tree planting and tree

growing and embrace the latter which is more effective. Josephine Wawira, the Communications Lead, Sustainable Inclusive Business Kenya insisted on the need to avoid using complex jargon on issues of environment and climate change and come down to the community's level and communicate effective contextual strategies towards climate change mitigation. Ebenezer Amadi a Program Manager at the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) said that the private sector continues to play a pivotal role in advocating for proper proenvironment policies and regulations in the country.

This Young Environmentalist Innovative Challenge is built on KCDF's environment work that began in 2016 under the Wangari Maathai Scholarship Fund.

Applications are open on the KCDF website, [www.kcdf.or.ke](http://www.kcdf.or.ke)

# Committee Queries Land Ownership In Boyani Settlement Scheme & Vipingo; lands CS Put To Task

By: Waithaka Kariuki  
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- “We have squatters that have been allocated land, then sell and move elsewhere or use the courts to claim that they have been discriminated against. We need to identify genuine squatters in the country,” stated Nixon Korir PS, Ministry of Lands, highlighting the challenge of distinguishing between genuine squatters and those who exploit the system.
- Adding to the complexity of the situation, the Committee discovered that squatters had illegally sold their land . The Committee recognized that even if the land were to be reverted back to the squatters, the issue of the previous sales would remain unresolved. “Even if the land is reverted back to the squatters, what happens to the sale? However, the land was not available for sale,” pointed out Jane Kihara, Vice-Chair.



Lands CS Zachariah Njeru.

National Assembly Committee on Lands chaired by Joash Nyamoko, MP North Mugirango met with Mr. Zachariah Njeru, CS Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Planning and Nixon Korir, PS, Ministry of Lands regarding the Vipingo Land and Boyani Settlement Scheme in Kilifi County.

Members of Parliament sought clarification on the number of plots that were acquired by Mombasa Cement Ltd in Boyani Settlement Scheme, the details on the actual owners of the Settlement Scheme in Kilifi County and the number of squatters who have already occupied the Vipingo land in Kilifi County.

In his submissions, CS, Mr. Zachariah Njeru, informed Lawmakers that there were no records of plots directly acquired by Mombasa Cement Ltd in the Boyani Settlement Scheme. However, the Ministry did acknowledge the presence of plots acquired by Venus Metal

Developers, who have placed caveats on all 85 parcels and whose Directors are linked to Mombasa Cement Ltd.

Kaloneni MP, Paul Katana raised alarm claiming that the entire Boyani Scheme had been fenced off, preventing beneficiaries from accessing their land. This brought concerns about coercion of the squatters and called for actions to revert the scheme to its original owners.

Regarding the details on the number of squatters who have already occupied the Vipingo land in Kilifi County. Documents scrutinised by the Committee on Lands revealed a surveyor’s report and a list of 223 owners of the Boyani Settlement Scheme.

However, the lack of proper records led Gideon Ochanda to question, “If the Ministry does not have records, who is expected to have them?” Members noted that this glaring gap in documentation raised concerns about the

transparency and accountability of land transactions in the Boyani Settlement Scheme and other Settlement Schemes.

“We have squatters that have been allocated land, then sell and move elsewhere or use the courts to claim that they have been discriminated against. We need to identify genuine squatters in the country,” stated Nixon Korir PS, Ministry of Lands, highlighting the challenge of distinguishing between genuine squatters and those who exploit the system.

Adding to the complexity of the situation, the Committee discovered that squatters had illegally sold their land . The Committee recognized that even if the land were to be reverted back to the squatters, the issue of the previous sales would remain unresolved. “Even if the land is reverted back to the squatters, what happens to the sale? However, the land was not available for sale,” pointed

out Jane Kihara, Vice-Chair.

“Any transfer that has been made on this land is irregular and contradicts the Section 6 Lands Act, which states that Settlement Scheme lands can only be transferred through succession and not by any other means,” emphasized the Mr. Zachariah Njeru, CS Lands in response to the irregular transfers witnessed in the Boyani Settlement Scheme.

Amidst these revelations, the Committee also delved into the action the Ministry is taking to resolve the matter of squatters occupying Vipingo Land in Kilifi County. The Cabinet Secretary revealed that the Ministry was unable to allocate funds to visit the area and profile the squatters however, the Ministry plans to undertake this exercise in the upcoming financial year of 2023/24.

Recognizing the need for comprehensive solutions, the Members of the Committee on Lands inquired about the Ministry’s programs to settle and support the scheme squatters, ensuring they can develop and utilize the land instead of selling it.

The Ministry of Lands confirmed that their mandate ends with the issuance of title deeds to squatters. This highlighted the gap in policy regarding infrastructure development and social economic support to squatters to make the land usable.

Throughout the proceedings, the legislators noted the Ministry’s challenges in record-keeping, interference from other government institutions, and confusion within its reporting structure. Consequently, Committee on Lands recommended that the Ministry streamline its operations and functions related to land records management and fully implement Section 6 of the Lands Act regarding Settlement Schemes.

The Committee further urged the Ministry to take a leading role in facilitating all land matters, including those related to major government projects such as the Naivasha Inland Ports, Dongo Kundu - Special Economic Zone and LAPPSET.

To address the concerns raised by the Committee, the Ministry of Lands assured them that an inquiry would be conducted to determine the true status of the missing land in Vipingo. The Ministry also committed to providing information on all government-owned land Delmonte, as requested by the Committee.

The Committee on Lands is expected to hold further meetings with the Ministry of Lands in the coming weeks.

SPORTS  
NEWSPHOTOS  
SCORES  
OPINIONS  
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SCHEDULES  
BREAKING NEWS

**Sports >>** \*Only 212 athletes have been invited to participate in this weekend's national trials for the World Championships, set for next month in Budapest, Hungary.

## Curse Of Doping Strikes Again As 212 Athletes Invited For Budapest National Trials



FROM LEFT: Athletics Kenya president Jack Tuwei, executive committee member Barnaba Korir and former Sports Principal Secretary Jonathan Mueke. PHOTO/RAYMOND MAKHAYA.

Only 212 athletes have been invited to participate in this weekend's national trials for the World Championships, set for next month in Budapest, Hungary.

This decision may have left many other athletes disappointed as they were hoping for an opportunity to fight for a ticket to represent Kenya at the global championships.

However, Athletics Kenya (AK) federation have clarified that the invited athletes are those that have satisfied the stringent anti-doping requirements by World Athletics.

Athletics Kenya executive committee member Barnaba Korir said every athlete ought to undergo at least one out-of-competition anti-doping test to be allowed to compete at the national trials.

"Every athlete has to undergo

at least three tests in the lead-up to the major competition, be it World Championships, Olympics and any event sanctioned by WA, of which at least one has to be out-of-competition. For us as AK to be able to select the team for the World Championships, we must choose those that are clean in that before the trials, you must have undergone a minimum of one out-of-competition test," Korir said.

He added: "Secondly, the athlete must also meet the qualifying time although that is not primary. The athlete still has until the end of this month to qualify for the World Championships."

Korir said the invite-only list is the product of a collaboration with the Anti-Doping Agency of Kenya (ADAK) and the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) to counter the curse of doping that has stained the country's reputation

as a cradle land of athletics.

"Outside of those conditions, the athletes cannot be allowed to compete at the trials and if they compete, they will not be selected for the World Championships. WA said that it will only accept those who have the minimum standards and secondly, the probable list sent to them by AK at the beginning of the year," he said.

Korir added: "Those ones (anti-doping tests requirements) it is not AK doing it. It is the work of ADAK and AIU. For us as a federation, we only provide the materials."

For the last six years, the country has been placed in Category A of countries that are most susceptible to doping offences.

Numerous athletes have been caught up in the doping menace, the latest being the 2021 Milan Marathon champion Titus Ekiru

who is facing a 10-year ban for use of a prohibited substance and use of falsified documents.

Korir said the stringent rules for the national trials are a consequence of rampant doping in the country.

"Kenyans should know that this is as a result of the doping cases that have been increasing in the country. Kenya is on a watchlist and we are required to follow these restrictions if we are to continue participating in international competitions...and if we don't, we will be kicked out," he explained.

Meanwhile, ADAK boss Sarah Shibutse says the agency has thus far this year conducted 390 tests – seven times more than last year.

"In the year 2022, I combined total of 55 tests were conducted for the National Championships and the trials for the World Championships. 2023 has seen the tests for the National Championships stand at 185 while tests for the World Championships stand at 205 providing a combined total of 390. That translates to 7 times more tests in 2023 than in 2022," Shibutse said.

She reiterated the agency's commitment to slaying the dragon called doping, despite its widespread tentacles in Kenyan sports.

"Kenya accounts for 40% of doping cases globally in athletics; this is a worrying statistic. However, this shall not dampen the resolve to promote clean sports as ADAK is steadily improving its efficiency and effectiveness in the war against doping in Kenya," she said.

The national trials will run from Friday to Saturday at the Nyayo Stadium after which Team Kenya to the World Championships will be named – at the same venue.

*Capital Sports*

# GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) the body designated to fight doping in the sport, has warned Kenya that it will get worse before it gets better as testing is scaled up owing to increased government funding.

# It Must Get Worse Before It Gets Better, Aiu Tells Kenya As Doping Fight Picks Up

The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) the body designated to fight doping in the sport, has warned Kenya that it will get worse before it gets better as testing is scaled up owing to increased government funding.

Thomas Capdevielle, the Head of Testing and Compliance at the AIU has said that more testing and intelligence will lead to more drug cheats being netted, and this will have a dent on the country’s image at the moment, but good in the long term.

“What we anticipate is that things will get worse before they get better because higher levels of testing means we will catch more drug cheats. We want to go beyond athletes and also try to unearth the networks behind them; the pharmacists, managers etc,” Capdevielle told Capital Sport.

Capdevielle has been in the country with AIU stepping up testing of athletes, and for the first time ever, all athletes competing at the National Trials to select the team for next month’s World Athletics Championships have to undergo testing.

At the Nyayo National Stadium on Thursday evening, as they picked up their running bibs, athletes were also subjected to testing, both urine and blood samples taken.

“We are only taking athletes who don’t have a long testing history. I have been in Kaptagat and we tested some athletes so we will not test them today. We are looking at the recent testing history of the athletes because there are some who are based in Japan and we took the opportunity to test them as well,” the AIU boss said.

He added; “Athletes didn’t expect to be tested today as they picked up their bibs and this is what we want. We have worked very well with Athletics Kenya (AK) and ADAK (Anti Doping Agency of Kenya) and this is what we want to be doing at every major event in Kenya.”



Thomas Capdevielle, the Head of Testing and Compliance at the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU).  
PHOTO/Timothy Olobulu

Last year, the government announced a Sh600m injection into ADAK’s budget to help raise the levels of testing and Capdevielle says this increased funding has been vital in them conducting more tests. He says over the National Championships held last week and this weekend’s World Championships trials, AIU in conjunction with ADAK are set to test close to 400 athletes, seven times more than they did last year. “At the National Championships last year we tested around 55 athletes and by the end of the day

today (Thursday), we will have tested close to 400 athletes. This is a very high standard in the world and it is actually more than we do anywhere, including in the US trials,” Capdevielle disclosed. He says they will scale the efforts beyond just testing, with investment in investigation, intelligence and education. He has however said there is no stigmatization of Kenyan athletes with increased testing. “We have more testing in Kenya because definitely there are more athletes here competing at a very high level all over the world. We

are not just focusing in Kenya because this is something we do all over the world,” he added. Kenya has been listed in “Category A” of the World Anti Doping Agency (WADA) since days leading to the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, and more athletes have been nabbed in the web since then.

Capital Sports

## SPORTS NEWS



PHOTOS  
SCORES  
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SCHEDULES  
BREAKING NEWS



# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN

## Backpage



By: Reviewed by Til Kumari  
Sharma

@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- Youth energy in today's art seems very praiseworthy. His style of cover design is genuine and motivational to global poets. The book named "The Flowers of The World" is very much provocative and praiseworthy title.
- This book gives birth to grand cover design. The greenary of earth and blooming flowers symbolically represent all poets' talent in global world. The poets are carved in the cover page from different colours.
- The white and red flowers have carved the victory of worth in design. The nature has given us to bloom in world. There is need of unity in the group. That worth of global poets is shown with different colours to bring different capacities.



Til Kumari Sharma

Thanks to Destiny Ink Publisher and Eric Kyalo to bring the book "The Flowers of The World" in Living Existence with beautiful design of the cover. The design of cover with huge personality of book is praiseworthy. It is designed by Destiny Ink Publishers including C. E. O Amb. Eric Kyalo and chief designer Douglas Musyoka.

The book has a grand design in cover having featured poets from world around like Kenya, Nepal, Nigeria, India, Sierra Leone etc. The greenary of scene of cover symbolically depicts the eternal writing blooming in world with beautiful flowers as poets. The flowers in front cover symbolize the brightness to add in human equality. The famous poet / writer Eric Kyalo as young and energetic fellow wants to rise all poets from globe.

Youth energy in today's art seems very praiseworthy. His style of cover



The compiler and chief editor.

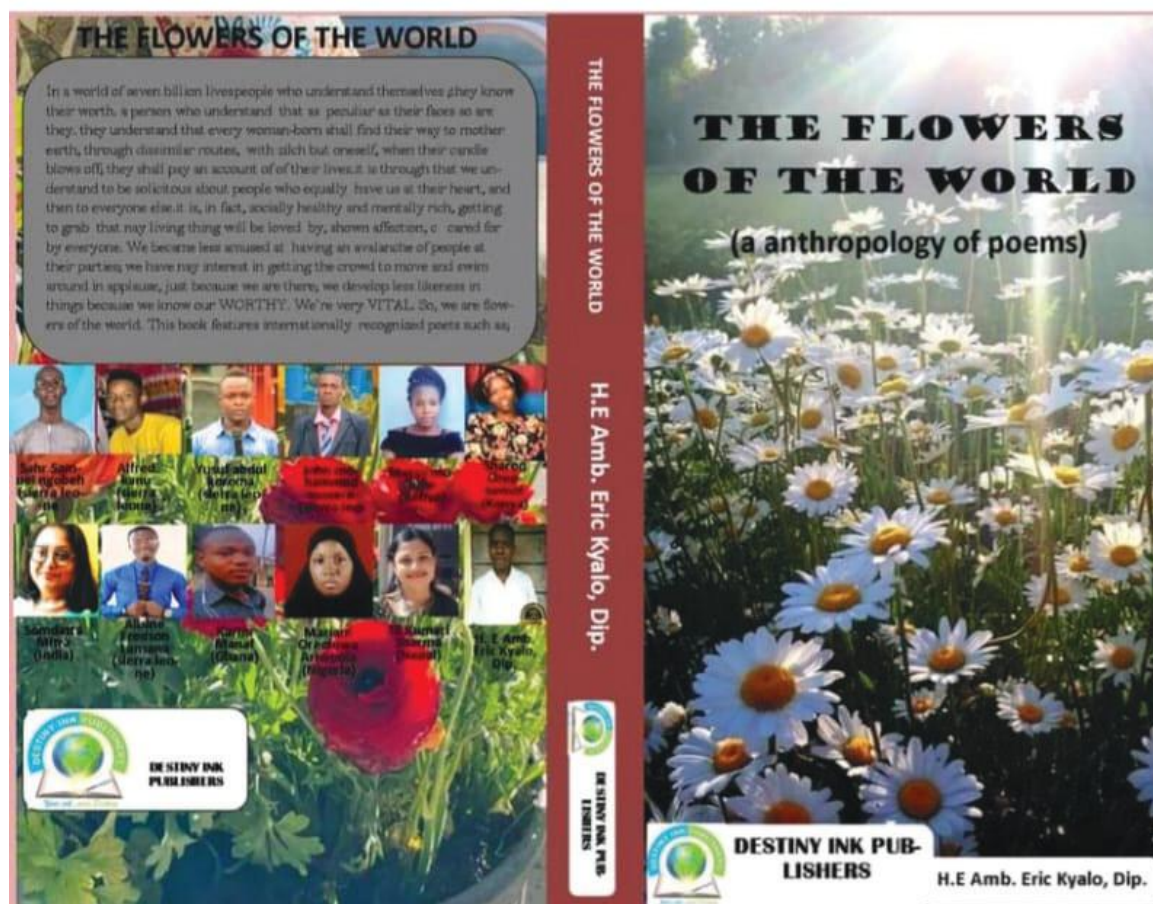
design is genuine and motivational to global poets. The book named "The Flowers of The World" is very much provocative and praiseworthy title. This book gives birth to grand cover design. The greenary of earth and blooming flowers symbolically

represent all poets' talent in global world. The poets are carved in the cover page from different colours. The white and red flowers have carved the victory of worth in design. The nature has given us to bloom in world. There is need of unity in the group. That worth of global poets is shown with different colours to bring different capacities. The red flower in cover design symbolizes victory of poets and white flowers are designed to bring light of ethics of poets. The green colour is bringing the eternity of art.

Eric Kyalo has huge effort to unify all and he is leading all to make this book qualified with high quality of cover design with meaningful title. His huge tribute should no be forgotten by poets.

He is well-known author of many books and he is from Kenya to unite all global poets as from Nepal, India, Kenya, Sierra, Leone, Nigeria and so on. Extreme thanks go to Eric Kyalo, Douglas Musyoka and Destiny Ink Publisher to design this wonderful book cover with multi colours of nature and different personalities of globe to include different cultures and religions to give sense of humanity.

Reviewed by Til Kumari Sharma (Pushpa) Multi award winner as international poetess, author and artist.



The anthology.