



**Energy PS Wachira Urges Consultative Transfer Of National Gov't Functions To Counties**

State Department of Energy Principal Secretary Alex Wachira is seeking for a consultative transfer of national government's functions to counties. The P S has called on technical officers engaged in the ongoing transfer of functions from the national government to the county governments to ensure the process is consultative.

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**News>> Public Debt And Privatization Committee Retreats To Strategize For 2024**

P. 8. The Public Debt and Privatization Committee has made over 63 policy recommendations that were successfully approved by the National Assembly in 2023.



**News>> We Shall Enact Water-Tight Legislation To Safeguard The Affordable Housing Program - Parliamentary House Committee**

P. 12. The Joint- Committee conducting public participation on the Affordable Housing Bill, 2023 has undertaken to enact a water-tight legislation to safeguard the Affordable Housing Program.

# Stakeholders Want Affordable Housing Bill To Address The Land Question

**A House Committee conducting public participation on the Affordable Housing Bill has been petitioned to address the public land compensation question, before rolling out the Affordable Housing Program to prevent future land disputes.**

A section of the Joint- Committee sitting at the County Hall Mini Chambers in Parliament was told that there is need for the State Department of Housing to compensate communities for the commercial value of the public land in which the program will be implemented, in compliance with Article 62 of the Constitution and Article 10 on Good Governance.



Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, Kuria Kimani making his point yesterday

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# Kenya, US To Forge Stronger Ties In Trade Partnership

By: Capital Correspondent



CS Rebecca Miano and Ambassador Whitman during a meeting where they agreed to foster Kenya, US ties. COURTESY..

Worth Noting:

- Led by Cabinet Secretary for Investment, Trade, and Industry, Rebecca Miano, and United States Ambassador to Kenya, Meg Whitman, the teams, alongside Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi, convened to provide updates on the progressing partnership.
- “Our goal is to foster economic prosperity, ensure security, protect human rights, and uphold democratic principles. The negotiations mark a crucial step towards a more comprehensive and mutually beneficial partnership between our two nations,” Miano said.

Kenya and the United States on Monday underscored their mutual dedication to strengthening bilateral trade and investment.

The focus areas include agriculture, regulatory practices, and the rights and protections of workers.

The commitment was highlighted in a meeting where negotiating teams from both countries in the Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership gathered to assess the advancement of ongoing talks.

Miano emphasized Kenya’s eagerness to strengthen ties with the United States with the leaders acknowledging the significance of fostering a robust partnership that goes beyond economic considerations.

Both sides highlighted their commitment to advancing mutual prosperity, security, human rights protection, and the promotion of democratic values.

“The ongoing negotiations signify the dedication of Kenya and the United

States to building a strategic alliance that addresses a broad spectrum of societal well-being,” Miano said.

The developing partnership between Kenya and the United States, Miano said is positioned to have a pivotal role in shaping the future of diplomatic and economic relations between the two nations.

“The anticipated outcomes go beyond immediate economic impacts, with a focus on contributing to regional stability and global prosperity,” she said.

The discussions mirrored a shared vision for a partnership that goes beyond economic considerations, emphasizing a commitment to broader regional stability and global prosperity.

Notably, Alfred K. Ombudo, the Principal Secretary for Trade at the State Department, played a crucial role in leading Kenya’s negotiation team, which included representatives from various government agencies.

Editor's Desk




**The Mt Kenya Times** is a Kenyan Newspaper that provides a unified view of Kenyan news, entrepreneurship, events, opinions, analysis, and a historical background to current affairs in a way that is both creative and innovative. It is published by **Exponential International Limited**, a Private Limited Liability company incorporated in Kenya to provide Communications and Media services.

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## NEWS IN BRIEF



Mombasa County is focusing on implementing clean energy adoption strategies to align with the country's climate plans. The county has already adopted low-carbon and efficient transportation systems, such as electric Tuk-tuks and electric motorcycles, and introduced cycling lanes to encourage environmentally friendly motorists. Purity Gakuo Kuza Freezer co-founder, a pioneer of sausage trawler innovations, has seen youths adopting technology systems that will foster development and empower their livelihoods. Kuza Freezer offers solar-powered solutions for cold storage and clean cooking storage, with a pay-as-you-go model. The company has reached 200 youths across four coastal counties and plans to expand to Mombasa and Nairobi through partnerships with microfinance. The clean cooking project, initiated on January 20, 2024, targets vendors using charcoal for their businesses and is accessible through microfinance partnerships. The county government also celebrated International Day of Clean Energy, focusing on reducing pollution and fostering a healthier environment.



Two needy siblings, who scored 169 and 235, respectively, were admitted to Form One at St. Charles Kabeo Mixed Day Secondary School in Omokonge Sublocation, Nyamache Sub County, Kisii County, as part of a government administration effort to achieve 100% transition. The move was initiated by area Assistant Chief Alfred Sossi and was accompanied by their single mother. Senior village elder Gabriel Onseri Nyakweba said they collaborated with the area assistant chief to ensure all Kenya Certificate Primary Education (KCPE) exam candidates reported to school. Principal Daniel Maganda welcomed the siblings and acknowledged the area administrator's role in identifying and assisting deserving cases within the community. However, Maganda cited challenges at the school, including a shortage of teachers, inadequacies in facilities and learning materials, and the need for more resources to ensure sustainability in retaining students from very poor backgrounds.



All private security companies have been directed to sign and submit a copy of legal commitment to pay government set minimum wage for private security officers. In a statement, Private Security Regulatory Authority warned that any private security company that fails to submit a duly signed and commissioned copy of the Legal Commitment within the next seven days from the date of the directive shall be subjected to a statutory review. "Any private security company that fails to submit a duly signed and commissioned copy of the Legal Commitment within the next 7 days from the date of this directive SHALL be subjected to a statutory review of its registration and licensing status in accordance with Section 32 of the Act." Stated PSRA. The Private Security Regulatory Authority is a Government Agency established under Section 7 of the Private Security Regulation Act No. 13 of 2016 and is charged with the responsibility of regulating the Private Security Industry in accordance with the Act and the values and principles set out in the Constitution.



The Kenyan government has invested Sh190 million in improving sports through the establishment of grass-roots centres across the country. The Cabinet Secretary for Sports, Ababu Namwamba, announced that the government will increase the budgetary allocation to these camps annually to ensure they are well-equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. At least 50 camps have been established so far, and the ministry will soon roll out a programme to train coaches to add to their numbers. Namwamba directed Athletics Kenya to start preparing for the Paris Olympics by identifying Kenyan athletes who could compete in steeplechase and identifying one of the camps where they would train together for three months before the games. He emphasised that Kenyans have always dominated athletics, especially long-distance running, but other countries are offering stiff competition, making it more important to invest heavily in sports. Former Cherangany MP Wisley Korir called for the Ministry of Education to adjust class time and allow time early in the evening for training. The French Ambassador also announced that his country would partner with Kenya in supporting talents.



The Canadian Govt through its embassy in Kenya has sponsored 20 DCI Crime Research and Intelligence Bureau detectives for an intensive training on Operational Intelligence, days after another class graduated with a similar training courtesy of the Embassy. During yesterday's opening of course that is being facilitated by experts from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Director DCI acknowledged the expertise showcased by the officers who have previously undertaken similar training, noting that meticulous intelligence analysis had seen many complex cases solved. In his remarks delivered by the Director Planning Mr Baraza Walumoli, AIG, DCI Chief Mr Mohamed Amin conveyed the Directorate's compliments to the Canadian Govt, given the high cost of training a single class on the coveted course. While at it, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Liaison Officer Ms Magdala Turpin expressed her government's commitment to continue partnering with Kenyan security teams in boosting capacity for operational intelligence, further urging the trainees to draw best practices from their facilitators.

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# WILO Organization and KEWI Sign Landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Collaborative Initiatives

By: Cynthia Masibo and Wendy Keziah

@themtkenyatimes

## Worth Noting:

- **Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building:** The MoU outlines provisions for knowledge sharing, capacity-building programs, and educational initiatives. WILO Organization will provide expertise, training, and resources to support KEWI's educational endeavors, thereby empowering communities and fostering skill development.
- **Community Engagement and Social Impact:** Recognizing the importance of corporate social responsibility, the MoU emphasizes joint initiatives for community engagement and social impact. WILO Organization and KEWI will collaborate on projects aimed at promoting sustainable development, environmental conservation, and social welfare.



WILO Organization and KEWI signs Memorandum of Understanding.

In a significant stride towards fostering collaboration and innovation in the ministry of water, the WILO Organization officially inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) yesterday. The ceremony, held at KEWI, marked a pivotal moment in the realms of the water sector as two prominent entities join forces to address critical challenges and explore new opportunities.

The MoU signing ceremony was attended by key dignitaries, executives, and stakeholders from both WILO Organization and KEWI. Among the distinguished attendees was the KEWI CEO Leiro Letangule.

WILO Organization, one of the leading companies in the pump industry and premium supplier for building services, water management and industrial sectors has long been committed to

innovation, sustainability, and driving positive change in the industry. With a rich legacy of water management, the organization brings unparalleled expertise and resources to the collaboration table.

The signing of the MoU signifies a mutual commitment between WILO Organization and KEWI to leverage their respective strengths, resources, and networks to pursue shared objectives. The key highlights of the MoU include:

**Research and Development Initiatives:** Both organizations will collaborate on research projects aimed at advancing: sustainable technologies, water management, etc. Through joint efforts, they aim to develop innovative solutions to address pressing challenges and drive technological advance-

ments.

**Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building:** The MoU outlines provisions for knowledge sharing, capacity-building programs, and educational initiatives. WILO Organization will provide expertise, training, and resources to support KEWI's educational endeavors, thereby empowering communities and fostering skill development.

**Community Engagement and Social Impact:** Recognizing the importance of corporate social responsibility, the MoU emphasizes joint initiatives for community engagement and social impact. WILO Organization and KEWI will collaborate on projects aimed at promoting sustainable development, environmental conservation, and social welfare.

**Technology Transfer and Innovation:** The MoU facilitates the exchange of technology, best practices, and innovative solutions between WILO Organization and KEWI. By leveraging their collective expertise, both organizations seek to catalyze innovation and drive positive change in the industry.

In his remarks at the ceremony, Be-lated Matebe of WILO Organization, expressed optimism about the partnership, highlighting its potential to create lasting impact and drive meaningful change. Similarly, Mr Nelson Kwamini a stakeholder of KEWI, underscored the importance of collaboration in addressing global challenges and emphasized KEWI's commitment to leveraging partnerships for social good.

As the MoU sets the stage for enhanced collaboration and synergies between WILO Organization and KEWI, stakeholders anticipate transformative outcomes that will not only shape the future of the water sector but also contribute to broader societal goals.

With a shared vision and commitment to excellence, WILO Organization and KEWI embark on a new chapter of collaboration, poised to make a meaningful difference in the world.

The signing ceremony concluded with a sense of optimism and anticipation, signaling the beginning of a promising partnership that holds immense potential for driving positive change and shaping a better future for generations to come.

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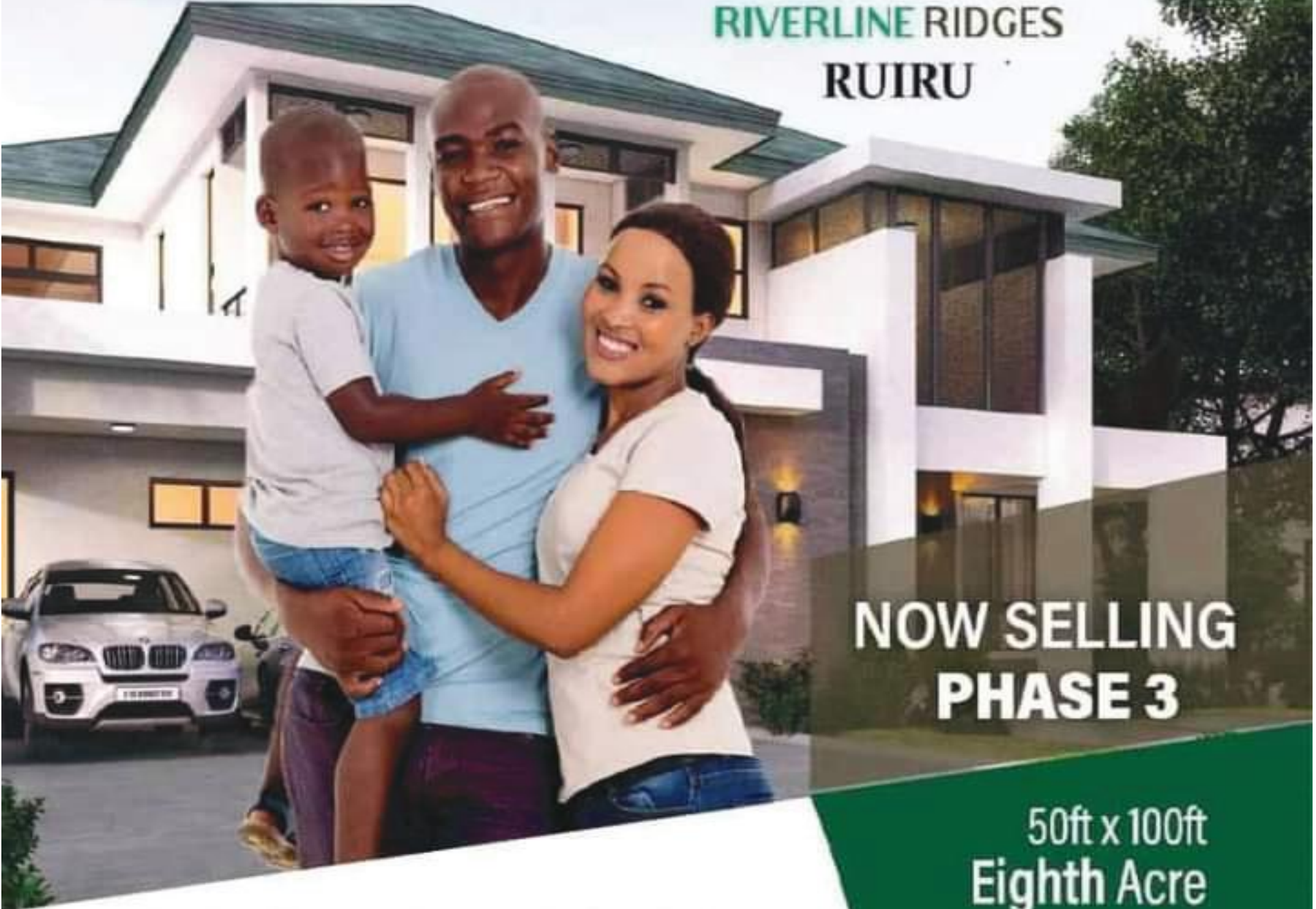


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# Public Debt And Privatization Committee Retreats To Strategize For 2024

By: PSCU

The Public Debt and Privatization Committee has made over 63 policy recommendations that were successfully approved by the National Assembly in 2023.

In a meeting chaired by Abdi Shurie (Balambala), lawmakers met to review and plan for the business the Committee will be conducting this year.

During the meeting, members were informed by the team from the Parliamentary Budget Office, that the committee shall continue reviewing extensively the Public Debt Stock, conduct oversight of the Consolidated Fund Services expenditures and analyze the 2024 Medium Term Debt Strategy within the first quarter of this year.

Further, the committee intends to analyze the privatization of national assets and review the implementation of the Annual Borrowing Plan, prepare reports on new loans contracted by the Government, and hold meet-

ings with the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), on the utilization of loans within their purview.

In addition, committee members shall be reviewing the Credit Guarantee Scheme, and conducting field visits to review the Public Private Partnership (PPP) projects being undertaken by the Government in various sectors.

The committee mandated to oversight public debt had a busy year in 2023, whereby nine reports were tabled in the House, including various reports on Consolidated Fund Services Expenditures, loans contracted by the national Government, the Public Finance Management (PFM) Amendment Bill 2023 and the Medium-Term Debt Management Strategy.

The Public Debt and Privatization Committee previously held multiple engagements with multiple stakeholders including the National Treasury, the Auditor-General, the Controller of Budget, the Central bank of Kenya, ICPAK amongst other financial institutions.



Some of the committee members during yesterday's meeting.

# Laikipia County Women Groups Benefit From Water Tanks

By: Muturi Mwangi  
@themkenyatimes

About 41 women groups involved in farming in Laikipia have benefited from water tanks, geared towards improving their livelihood and economic sustainability, courtesy of UN Women.

Speaking during the handover of the 80 tanks in Nanyuki, Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu said that partnering with women-led organizations would ensure residents benefitted at the household level.

“Our main aim is improving the livelihood of our people starting from the household level and by providing water tanks, it helps them do water harvesting for kitchen garden farming,” said the governor.

He noted that the issuance of tanks was in line with his manifesto, which included giving out 50,000 water tanks, aimed at addressing the water

crises in the county.

Irungu said that many families were relying on kitchen gardens for their daily vegetable needs, where the surplus was sold to supplement the family's daily income.

The Korean International and Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Kenya Director Janghee Im said that apart from farming, women were sensitized to understand their roles in the society and take up leadership positions.

“This project model is to change the rural communities through women, and we have selected about 41 women groups from Laikipia, who have been trained and supported with assets aimed at ensuring they get empowered and become independent,” said Im.

Im said that they were also carrying out similar projects in the counties of West Pokot and Kitui.

KOICA through the UN Women and Food Agricultural Organization had invested more than KSh600 million to promote women in the three



Laikipia County governor Joshua Irungu flagging off the tanks.

ASALs counties to practice Climate Smart farming for a four-year period. Meanwhile, apart from water tanks, the women benefited with 71 dam liners, 117 beehives, 145 honey har-

vesting suits, eight water pumps and eight shade nets targeting to improve their income.

A beneficiary, Priscilah Miring'u, lauded the empowerment project not-

ing that with the water tanks, it would be easy to store water for farming even during dry spell.

# Stakeholders Want Affordable Housing Bill To Address The Land Question, Ringfence Funds For Housing Program

By: Our Reporter  
@themkenyatimes

A House Committee conducting public participation on the Affordable Housing Bill has been petitioned to address the public land compensation question, before rolling out the Affordable Housing Program to prevent future land disputes.

A section of the Joint-Committee sitting at the County Hall Mini Chambers in Parliament was told that there is need for the State Department of Housing to compensate communities for the commercial value of the public land in which the program will be implemented, in compliance with Article 62 of the Constitution and Article 10 on Good Governance.

Speaking when he shared his perspectives on the Bill, Advocate Vincent Ombaka who represented the Law Society of Kenya, noted that according to Article 62, Public land is held by the national government in trust for the people of Kenya and is to be administered on their behalf by the National Land Commission.

He called on the committee to create a provision in the Bill outlining how the communities whom the land belongs to are to be adequately compensated for the commercial value derived from the affordable housing program.

“There is need for the committee to address any aspects on constitutionality in this Bill. For instance, how do you compensate for commercial use of the land even where the land in question is public land?” he posed.

While clarifying that the legal fraternity has no intention to stand in the way of what he termed as a ‘noble project’, he urged the committee to thoroughly address the question on land among other aspects of constitutionality that have arisen in the process of considering the Bill.

His sentiments were echoed by Ms. Rose Mullyungi, a representative from the Kenya National Congress of Pentecostal Churches who observed that in dealing with the issue of land ownership, it were better to look for land elsewhere rather than demolish existing housing units to pave way for the affordable housing units.

Contributing on this debate, former legislator Sonia Birdi asked the committee to consider a provision for willing private land owners to cede their land to government for program, especially in areas where there is no available public land. She noted that the Bill could offer a good juncture to entrench order in the building and construction indus-



Some of the participants during yesterday's session.

try through the adoption of a proper land use policy.

On their part, West Minister Consulting called on the committee to ensure that the Bill addresses the issues of inclusivity while ensuring that minimum standards and quality requirements for the housing units, are outlined. They noted that the Bill has overlooked specific challenges faced by individuals, particularly Muslims, who may not avail themselves the loan facility due to the presence of interest which contravenes Islamic Financial principles.

The consulting firm also proposed the amendment of Section 11(c) of the Bill to ensure that monies collected under the Housing Levy are ringfenced for that program. They argued that the current crafting of the provision does not guarantee that, adding that the money could be appropriated for other administrative functions.

“A more stringent mechanism should be implemented to ensure that the money collected for the construction of affordable houses will not be diverted for any other purposes”, they held.

The Architects Alliance of Kenya representatives led by Sylvia Mueni Kasanga, also made a presentation before the committee. They expressed the Alliance’s interest in being represented in the proposed Affordable Housing Fund Board. The Association also proposed that the chairperson be drawn from among professionals in the Built Environ-

ment space.

Noting that Housing under Schedule Four is a devolved function, they made a proposal to have County Housing Boards to develop policy tailor-made for various counties and responding to the specific county housing needs.

The ex-Senator who served in the 12th Parliament further emphasized on the need to rethink the proposed architectural designs so as to ensure that the housing units provide for green spaces, and make consideration on how living spaces can affect mental health.

At the same time, representatives from people living in the informal settlements and slum areas lauded the Bill which they noted if enacted would enable them live dignified lives as it would improve their living standards though creation of jobs and decent housing.

They however called for affirmative action for people with disabilities, vulnerable groups and very low income earners who they noted can-

not afford the proposed deposits for one to be guaranteed a housing unit. They called for inclusion of a provision in the Bill to protect the well do in society from oversubscribing for the units, thus denying them an opportunity for decent housing.

Reacting to these observations, legislators led by the chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, Kuria Kimani assured the stakeholders present that the Committee would thoroughly review their input in view of enacting a progressive law.

“We want to thank you for your input. Very good suggestions have been made today. Indeed, this underscores the need for public participation. We shall carefully study all these submissions and see how they can enrich the Bill”, he said.

The committee is expected to wrap up the public hearings tomorrow with the exercise taking place simultaneously at County Hall in Nairobi County and in Mombasa County.



Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, Kuria Kimani making his point yesterday.



## Worth Noting:

- He called on the committee to create a provision in the Bill outlining how the communities whom the land belongs to are to be adequately compensated for the commercial value derived from the affordable housing program.

- “There is need for the committee to address any aspects on constitutionality in this Bill. For instance, how do you compensate for commercial use of the land even where the land in question is public land?” he posed.

- While clarifying that the legal fraternity has no intention to stand in the way of what he termed as a ‘noble project’, he urged the committee to thoroughly address the question on land among other aspects of constitutionality that have arisen in the process of considering the Bill.

# Evil Spirits Can Be Controlled By The Child Of God Pt 1



**By: Eric Musa**  
 EMEA.ericmusa@gmail.com

Here again, this is where the authority comes in. In the early part of this message I said we do not have authority over people. If you think, as a child of God, you can pray and order someone to do something, I have news for you. It will not work! Remember, in the Garden of Eden, even God Almighty would not force Adam to refrain from eating the forbidden fruit. Likewise, God will not force man to do anything on the strength of your prayer.

Man is a free moral agent. He has to come of his own volition. So you see, your authority is not over mankind. You can't manipulate men like pieces on some celestial chess board.

It just doesn't work that way. God Almighty does not operate that way. He will deal with man, impress man, and move upon man. But He will never make, force, or coerce him to do anything. But this doesn't mean we are powerless. Even though we do not have authority over mankind, as Christians we do have authority over the spirits of darkness.

The fact is that the world's problems are caused by evil spirits under their master, Satan. Entire nations are governed by evil spirits. Households are controlled by evil spirits. We wonder why people do the terrible, unbelievable things they do. It is because evil spirits are dominating these people, influencing and driving them. Do not misunderstand. That does not mean everyone is "demon-possessed."

Actually, there are very few people who are demon-possessed. I personally believe that all demon-possessed people are either insane or demented to a greater or lesser degree. But I also believe that every unsaved person is more or less controlled by de-



mons. Again I emphasize, this does not mean demon-possessed. But it does mean influenced by demons. HALELUJAH.

**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-*

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# Why Ruto Is Fighting Hard To Save His Affordable Housing Plan?



By: Joseph Mutua Ndonga  
mutuandonga@yahoo.com



President William Ruto

## Worth Noting:

As the CJ, the buck stops with you. The people of Kenya expect you to tame members of your team. The corrupt riddled judges must be shown the door. On his part, the President assured the CJ of his commitment to eradicate corruption in the executive. The three-judge bench of Court of Appeal had earlier ruled in favor of an application filed by Treasury Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Ndungu. The bench had upheld the High Court order allowing the government to continue collecting the housing levy until an appeal is heard and determined. The matter is still pending in court. So, the change of heart by the bench was bound to raise queries. Was the decision based on law or it was an escalation of the ongoing war. What has changed?

Just like his predecessors, President William Ruto is leaving nothing to chance in building and unveiling his legacy projects.

There is no doubt that the affordable housing plan is his signature legacy project.

He suffered a blow a few days ago when the Court of Appeal suspended the collection of the housing levy until appeal is heard and determined.

The president did not take this matter lightly.

This is the work of my political opponents. They are hellbent on sabotaging and derailing my development agenda.

The corrupt judicial officers were helping them to have their way after bribing and compromising them.

Their machinations are bound to fail because we will not obey these orders.

A few days later, the President held a meeting with Chief Justice Martha Koome and Speaker of national assembly Moses Wetangula. The Speaker joined them later.

Sources indicated that the President took unprecedented move when he declassified some intelligence reports which he shared with CJ. He disclosed that corrupt judges were working hand in hand with corrupt and rogue lawyers. As the CJ, the buck stops with you. The people of Kenya expect you to tame members of your team. The corrupt riddled judges must be shown the door.

On his part, the President assured the CJ of his commitment to eradicate corruption in the executive. The three-judge bench of Court of Appeal had earlier ruled in favor of an application filed by Treasury Cabinet Secretary Njuguna Ndungu.

The bench had upheld the High Court order allowing the government to continue collecting the housing levy until an appeal is heard and determined. The matter is still pending in court. So, the change of heart by the bench was bound to raise queries. Was the decision

based on law or it was an escalation of the ongoing war. What has changed?

It is worth noting that when the two bulls fight, it is the grass that suffers. So, in this case, it is the people of Kenya.

The earlier decision of the court of appeal was yet another setback to Senator Okiya Omtata and other activists who had moved to court seeking to stop the government from collecting the housing levy. This is until their case is heard and determined.

The petitioners' key prayers were. The court should declare the levy unconstitutional and illegal.

They would not however convince the judges that they had a strong and watertight case. This is because the case was not anchored on the provisions of the constitution and other written laws of Kenya that were relevant and well grounded.

I had earlier listened to President William Ruto's interview when he hosted journalists from different media houses at State House Nairobi. The President minced no word in responding to all the issues and questions raised.

One of the journalists told him. You rode to power on a platform of promising to respect and uphold the constitution and other laws of the land but today you are doing the opposite.

He cited the housing levy. The court declared this law unconstitutional but we have been hearing you maintaining that the levy is there to stay.

The President told him. What you are saying is not true. I have been walking the talk in terms of respecting the constitution and decisions of the courts.

On housing levy, you the people of the media are to blame for misinterpreting that ruling. The problem of unconstitutional was indeed created by you.

That is not what the bench of the three judges stated. The bench only took issue with what they termed as discriminative aspects of the law.

This is because it is only employed

people whose salaries were being subjected to a deduction of 1.5 percent.

The Judges heard our prayers and allowed the government to continue collecting the levy until January next year. This will give you an opportunity to review and align this law. You would not have expected the judges to do this if the housing levy is unconstitutional.

It is worth noting the housing levy is a key pillar of the Finance Act of 2023.

When the judges delivered the ruling, President William Ruto stated. We believe in the rule of law. So, my government will fully comply with the orders issued.

We will take the necessary steps to ensure this law is aligned. Dr Ruto reiterated this during interview. He said that the majority leader Kimani Ichungwah have already drafted the bill and presented it to parliament.

The president further stated. The housing plan is a noble idea whose time has come. As I speak, It has created 120,000 jobs. The job opportunities are set to increase to 200,000 and 500,000 in coming days.

The mega project resonated very well with Ruto's concept of bottom up economic model. It is designed to address two main challenges: joblessness and lack of decent houses.

The President announced that 250,000 affordable housing units will be constructed in the first phase.

At one point during a visit to Busia county, he told the 'hustlers'.

The housing project is being opposed by those employed who received a payslip every month.

They do not want 1.5 per cent to be deducted from their salaries.

The same case applies to the top leaders of the Azimio La Umoja One Kenya Opposition coalition.

Each one pockets a pension of more than 1 million from the National Treasury every month.

These are the same personalities who say they love you and were ready to die for you. Really, do they?

When they oppose a deduction of 1.5 percent from their payslips, what message are they sending?

They don't care. They want you to continue being poor and to live in a state of desperation and hopelessness.

As a born-again Christian, I agree with the President.

The Bible says that God blesses the hand of a cheerful giver who contributes towards elevating the living standards of the poor and down-trodden.

At the time, the Affordable Housing Plan was one of the proposals contained in the controversial Finance Bill 2023.

The 'Hustlers' (those without a payslip) were excluded from paying the housing levy.

The real estate developers are contracted to build these houses. Once completed, the government will buy them.

When selling the units, the state will give priority to the hustlers.

President Ruto has been reiterating. This will be a key milestone. For the

first time in our history, the sons and daughters of the hustlers will own decent houses.

This will elevate them to the class of the wealthier and rich families.

Listen to the critics. President Ruto's position is that the deductions are compulsory. He is therefore pushing the levy down the throat of Kenyans.

I totally disagree. The president had no legal mandate to pass this proposal into law. This power is exercised by parliament.

The members will debate and thereafter each vote either in favor or against each of the clauses.

The process starts with the drafting of the Bill which is then presented to the house for the first reading. No debate at this stage.

First, the Bill has to be subjected to public participation. The relevant committees of house organize the forums, collect and collate the views of the people. This was done.

Yes, I agree that Parliament is dominated by members of the ruling Kenya Kwanza alliance.

But I want to ask the critics. Are you suggesting the members did not understand their job?

This is tantamount to insulting the intelligence of Kenyans. You are telling them they did not use their brains when they elected them.

For starters, the government is made up of three main arms: parliament, executive and Judiciary.

Though each is independent, the law requires them to always embrace the principle of interdependence and complementarity.

Majorly, the role of a Member of Parliament is three pronged: Legislation, oversight and representation.

The President was in fore front of drumming support for Finance Bill 2023. Does this amount to overstepping his legal mandate? No, he is not.

I would have expected Raila to be the last person to oppose this proposal. Why? During the campaigns, the house plan proposal stood out as one of his main election pledges.

If elected President, I will rollout a massive affordable housing plan. Majority of our people, who migrated to urban centers, were living in poor and highly deplorable conditions in slums. 'My government' will build decent houses for them. This is a commitment I have given to you.

Raila would add: A huge chunk of money to build these houses will come from our pockets. He would single out those employed, civil servants, state officers and other workers. The Government will deduct 1.5 per cent from the payslip of each. President Ruto's administration is collecting the same amount.

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

# We Shall Enact Water-Tight Legislation To Safeguard The Affordable Housing Program – Parliamentary House Committee



Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning chairman Kuria Kimani addressing participants at Fazal Island in Lamu last Friday.

## Worth Noting:

- The Court of Appeal last week dismissed a Stay Application where the Government sought to continue collecting the Housing Levy until the appeal it filed is heard and determined by the Court of Appeal.
- Kimani was responding to queries from a number of participants who sought to know if the committee was not in breach of a court order, following the court decision.
- The participants further asked the committee to create a provision that ringfences the Housing Levy to the implementation of the Housing Program. They also told the lawmakers to create stringent provisions to deter rogue officers from misappropriation of funds.

The Joint- Committee conducting public participation on the Affordable Housing Bill, 2023 has undertaken to enact a water-tight legislation to safeguard the Affordable Housing Program.

The revelation was made by the chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning Kuria Kimani when his team engaged Lamu County residents at Faza Island in Lamu East Constituency and Lamu Social Hall at Lamu West Constituency last week.

Kuria further disclosed that the committee was carefully studying the court ruling on Housing levy to see how to have the Affordable Housing Bill address those shortfalls. He noted that the Bill seeks to provide a legal framework for the establishment of the Affordable Housing Fund, and to give effect to Article 43(1)(b) of the Constitution on the right to accessible and adequate housing.

“I wish to clarify that what happened at the Court of Appeal does not in any

way stop us from conducting public hearings. Today marks Day 9 of this exercise and we’re set to finish next week. In fact this Bill’s objective is to create the legal framework which the court said the housing levy lacks”, he told the residents.

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The participants further asked the committee to create a provision that ringfences the Housing Levy to the implementation of the Housing Program. They also told the lawmakers to create stringent provisions to deter rogue officers from misappropriation of funds.

Turning to the potential benefits of the program to the county, the residents called on the Committee to set up a regulation that will make it mandatory for the State Department of Housing to engage artisans and contractors from the County.

They also urged the committee to find a mechanism to have skilled artisans recognized and recruited to work in the construction sites even if they do not possess certification.

In response, Kimani told them that the committee would consider the proposal so as to allow locals benefit from the program. He observed that the recent Recognition of Prior Learning would help thousands of young people get certified for formal engagement in the program.

At the same time, the legislators pledged to root for a stimulus package to help accelerate the economic transformation of the County.

Speaking after the public hearing session, the lawmakers noted that their visit to Faza Island had given

them a deep insight on the challenges faced by the area residents.

“Your Member of Parliament has been very vocal about the issues facing Lamu East Constituency. Now that we have come here and experienced first hand the challenges you people face, We shall support you Hon. Ruweida in your development agenda,” Munyoro said.

On her part, Ruweida told the lawmakers that the Constituency was ready to roll-out the implementation of the project. She told the Committee that through the Constituency Development Fund, they had purchased a 5-acre piece of land in readiness for the construction of the 200 housing unit that each constituency was allocated a budget for, during this financial year.

The committee was scheduled to engage more stakeholders over the Bill at Parliament Buildings yesterday and today.

# Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi Lauded For Its Management And Care For Heart Attacks

By: John Kariuki  
@themkenyatimes



Aga Khan University Hospital.

The Aga Khan University Hospital, Nairobi has been showered with praises by an American citizen for exceptional services in the management of heart attacks. In a video trending online, the American citizen by the name Tony, lauded the Aga Khan University Hospital for prompt care when he suffered a heart attack while in Kenya. Tony commended the hospital for its world-class service and professionalism,

“I have been in many hospitals, all over the United States and in Europe, and this is top-notch,” says Tony, of his experience at AKUH.

AKUH has in recent times gone after international accreditations of its services to benchmark with top hospitals in America. The hospital has twice been certified as a Centre of Excellence for the management of heart attacks by the Joint Commission International (JCI) - the recognized global

leader in health quality standards. The hospital has also been certified by JCI as a Centre of Excellence for Management of Stroke.

“The treatment I have received in this hospital surpasses treatment I have received anywhere. I thank God for the doctors, nurses, staff, and the

technology that they have here at this facility,” adds Tony.

Heart attacks are a medical emergency, and prompt treatment is required to ensure a patient’s survival. While announcing its accreditation, AKUH stated that it has put in place standardized protocols to ensure that each

heart attack patient receives the same quality of care and on time.

In Kenya, many heart attack cases in Kenya go undiagnosed and do not receive timely treatment. This is because patients or caregivers fail to recognize the significance of the symptoms and do not seek assistance.

Heart attack diagnosis and treatment is also hindered by lack of some facilities in the country. At a minimum, a hospital should be able to do an ECG, basic blood tests and administer medications known as thrombolytics, or “clot busters”.

“Our cardiology services include a state-of-the-art catheterization lab that caters to our patients who need invasive, often lifesaving, and procedures. We also conduct a range of non-invasive procedures to assist our patients with cardiovascular disease,” states AKUH on its website.

In the video, the patient showcases the ICU unit, which he says is one of the highest standards he has experienced in the world. The patient also praised the team of cardiologists who ensured he was treated with the urgency required.

“Our heart attack service is considered as one of the best in Africa,” reads a statement on AKUH’s website.

# Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation Holds Government Performance Roadshows



By: Cynthia Masibo  
@themkenyatimes



Cabinet Secretary Zacharia Njeru Leads Ministry’s Departments and Agencies in Presentations.

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation, and Irrigation recently conducted a series of Government Performance and Delivery Roadshows at the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI), aimed at highlighting the achievements and challenges within the sector. Led by the esteemed Cabinet Secretary, Zacharia Njeru, the event served as a platform for accountability and transparency in showcasing the government’s efforts to enhance water access, sanitation facilities, and irrigation systems across Kenya.

During the roadshows, various departments and agencies within the ministry presented their performance reports to the Ministry of Public

Service, Performance, and Delivery Management. These presentations encompassed a comprehensive overview of key achievements, ongoing projects, and future plans, offering insights into the progress made and the challenges encountered in the

pursuit of sustainable water management and sanitation solutions nationwide. Cabinet Secretary Zacharia Njeru emphasized the ministry’s commitment to ensuring the effective delivery of water, sanitation, and irriga-

tion services to all Kenyan citizens. He reiterated the government’s dedication to addressing the pressing needs of communities, especially in rural and marginalized areas, by implementing innovative strategies and investing in infrastructure de-

velopment. The roadshows provided a valuable opportunity for stakeholders to engage in constructive dialogue, exchange ideas, and collaborate on initiatives aimed at improving the quality of life for Kenyan citizens. Through transparent assessments of performance and delivery, the ministry seeks to foster greater accountability, efficiency, and responsiveness in its operations, ultimately advancing the nation’s socio-economic development agenda.

The Government Performance and Delivery Roadshows underscored the importance of collective efforts and partnerships in achieving sustainable progress in the water, sanitation, and irrigation sector. As Kenya continues to strive towards the realization of its development goals, such initiatives serve as catalysts for positive change and transformation within the country’s vital infrastructure and service delivery systems.

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## My Mom



everything.

May your face always shine,

May I carry your prayers.

In the future, worthy children will be born,

I will take my father to Hajj with you.

I have a mother, a troubled mother

Their words are sweet and their faces are bright.

I am proud of you, my mother

I am proud to have you

Caress my soul as my daughter,

My heart says that I am beautiful.

My quick hand is a flower that is kind,

You praise me for being passionate about

My name is Maqsudova Khanzodabegim. I am a 6th-grade student of the 2nd general secondary school in the city of GAZZAN, Navoi region. I am a prose writer and a poet. I want to become a translator in the future. I am also interested in journalism. I am currently learning many languages. I am fluent in Russian, English, and Arabic languages.

My goals this year are to learn Korean. I have already written many poems. I have also written a number of stories and articles. Among these creations, I would like to present to you a poem I wrote for my devoted and loving mother.

## Deprived Of Pleasure



Deprived of pleasure,  
He ignored the road.  
And if it goes out of it,  
He put it alone with the fire.

Antikmad didn't count,  
Don't miss the flavors.  
No love left today  
Alone in the living room.

\*

When I cried, I cried because of the smell.

How many years my heart has been oppressed.  
I said goodbye; I shook my body.  
I don't need you either.

I waited again, not in a hurry,  
Remove the surfing to my eyes.  
But as the years passed,  
It was difficult for me.

Rukiya GAZIYEVA,  
Member of the Union of Writers of  
Uzbekistan.

## Image Of Historical Figures In Abdulla Oripov's Poetry



By: Abduvaliyeva Dilzoda

ANNOTATION: We can see that Abdullah Oripov referred to many historical figures in his poetry. It is no exaggeration to say that the poet taught the youth not to be indifferent to the events of the distant past, the life and fate of our great ancestors. The idea of Abdulla Oripov's talent is that he tried to instill national unity into the human heart through a bright image. So, it seems that in his poems dedicated to the past of our people, the life and fate of his great ancestors, he is a reflection of the personality of the poet who promoted the idea of humanity and patriotism aimed at self-knowledge.

Key words: Alisher Navai Amir Timur Babur Abu Ali Ibn Sino

Every poet has his own way of creation, Abdulla Oripov is also a poet who has gained a wide place in the hearts of readers with his way of creation, his work is connected with the fate of the nation, the country, its past, present and future.

The hero of Uzbekistan, Abdulla Oripov, who contributed to the poetry of Uzbek literature. In the poet's research, the study of the past reality of our people, the life and fate of our great ancestors occupied a special place. The spirit of the times is always felt in Abdulla Oripov's poems, epics, dramas and proverbs expressing his attitude to history. In his poems such as "Alisher", "At the grave of Pahlavon Mahmud", "Mo'min Mirza", "Temur's gardens", "Furqat's cry", "Alisher's mother", "Babur", "Hakim va ajal", "Sahibqiran" "in the five-act poetic

drama, the poet aims to find answers to today's spiritual, moral, social-philosophical issues through the fate of great figures.

In the lyrics of Abdulla Oripov, it is clearly visible that raising human dignity, glorifying high spiritual and moral qualities, freedom is the highest human value. Islam Abduqanievich Karimov said in his article "There is no future without historical memory" - "Self-awareness begins with knowing history. A person with historical memory is a strong-willed person." In the works of many of our poets, we find novels, poems, and epics written about historical figures. We can see it in the works of Abdulla Oripov. During the years of independence, he created the image of the poet Amir Temur.

The epic "Sahibqiron" written in 1995 was an important event in our literary life. Amir also wrote poems such as "Temur's Gardens", "Temur's Stone", "Aq Saray", which reveal various aspects of Temur's personality. The work portrays the events of the last years of Amir Temur's life, a great figure who united scattered nations and built a great state, carried out creativity and creativity everywhere, raised military leadership to the level of military art. In the lyric-epic work "Hakim wa Ajal" by Abdulla Oripov, we can see an example of the ideals of goodness and justice from the high modern reality in the example of the life and fate of Abu Ali Ibn Sina, a thinker of the Uzbek people. Ibn Sina's scientific activity arouses feelings of respect in us because it is based on goodness.

Abdulla Oripov's poems, epics and poetic dramas on the historical theme, dedicated to the life and fate of our great ancestors, articles and conversations about the twenty-first century of our people and our country, are filled with feelings of love and respect. Teachers such as Abdulla Oripov, Fitrat, Cholpon, Oybek, Maqsud Shaykhzoda continue the tradition of searching for answers to today's spiritual issues based on Mozi.

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# Small Business Owners Thrive In Kiambu County

By: Josphine Libala  
 @themtkenyatimes

Kiambu County residents are utilizing local small businesses, to enhance their living standards amid ongoing hard economic times.

Some of the reasons driving the escalation of small businesses, include the high number of job searchers in the County compared to the very few job opportunities available.

Speaking to one of the street vendors who has been in business for two years in Kiambu town, Elizabeth Kanyara, who sells smokies, boiled eggs and chapatis, the vendor narrated that starting her business was the best decision that she ever made, since she is now able to tend to her basic needs and no longer depend on her relatives to help.

Elizabeth chose to focus on selling food due to her passion for the industry and a desire not to expand her business to a hotel.

Despite her business's growth, she

faces challenges that include harassment from County inspectorate and difficulties in obtaining necessary certificates, due to rogue County officers.

"I graduated with a diploma about three years ago and after unsuccessful searching for a job opportunity, I decided to venture into this business, as I needed money to take care of my six year-old son and myself," she said

She plans to expand her small business to enable her pay school fees for the child, feeding, and rent, and expanding her sales through two more trollies. Elizabeth records a daily profit of Sh 1,000 to Sh 1,500 on a good day.

The vendor advises that one should consider certain factors for the success of their business, including the location, good customer communication, as well as cleanness in the business place.



# PS Irrigation Ephantus Kimotho At KEWASIP Forum

By: MoWSI

Principal Secretary for Irrigation Ephantus Kimotho yesterday, attended a technical identification mission meeting for the Kenya Watersheds Services Improvement Programme (KEWASIP) convened at a Nairobi Hotel.

KEWASIP is a five-year programme supported by the World Bank, aiming at reviving degraded landscapes and enhancing watershed services, fostering climate change resilience, and improving livelihoods

This comprehensive effort seeks to sustainably manage watersheds, restore degraded areas, and advocate for sustainable land management practices while incorporating environmentally friendly Agricultural practices to boost productivity.

Speaking at the event, PS Kimotho



emphasized the inclusion of Irrigation Water User Associations, which will go a long way in educating farmers on protecting and reclaiming degraded land including arid and

semi arid zones. Principal Secretaries present were Eng. Festus K Ng'eno (Environment and Climate Change), Mr. Gitonga Mugambi (Forestry), and Silvia Mu-

seiya (Wildlife). Mr. Ragini Dalal representing the World Bank, representatives from Principal Secretaries in State Department for Agriculture, ASALs,

and Officers from state Corporations were also in attendance.



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# Energy PS Wachira Urges Consultative Transfer Of National Gov't Functions To Counties

By: Our Reporter  
@themtkenyatimes

State Department of Energy Principal Secretary Alex Wachira is seeking for a consultative transfer of national government's functions to counties.

The P S has called on technical officers engaged in the ongoing transfer of functions from the national government to the county governments to ensure the process is consultative.

Speaking at Sawela Lodge in Naivasha, Nakuru County, yesterday, the PS welcomed the move by the inter-governmental technical relations to revoke the Gazette notice that was published on 27th November 2023 to allow further deliberations.

"As the State Department for Energy, we were one of the people who urged the revoking of the Gazette notice because we saw that certain issues may not necessarily work and that there are areas that we may be able to collaborate," he said.

The PS said the unbundling and transfer of functions should consider the views of stakeholders to enhance better service delivery without overlapping roles.



PS for Energy Alex Wachira.

# Several Houses Destroyed As Heavy Rains Pound Nyandarua

By: Simon Ngure  
@themtkenyatimes

Over fifteen families have been rendered homeless in the Bongo area of Nyandarua county following heavy rains yesterday.

The heavy rains, punctuated by equally heavy winds, uprooted at least five trees, which then fell on residential homes, destroying at least 15 houses according to witnesses.

The rains also wreaked havoc on crops, with the area Member of County Assembly (MCA) reporting that a cow was killed by a falling tree during the incident.

"We are very shocked at the damage that the heavy rains have caused here," Nyakio Ward MCA Zack Njeru told the media at the scene, adding, "One woman's house was completely destroyed by the rains, and we do not know what to do now

that she is homeless."

The MCA urged well-wishers to help those who had been rendered homeless as soon as possible, as they could be facing long, cold nights in the open.

Heavy rains have continued to pound parts of the country despite the month of January being expected to be dry.

One of the houses that were destroyed in Nyandarua County yesterday



## Passaris Expresses Confidence in the Affordable Housing Project

By: John Kariuki  
 @themtkenyatimes



Esther Passaris is the Woman Representative Nairobi County.

She is a committed leader who handles her work with a lot of seriousness, commitment, zeal and a strong degree of people centered service.

She is Nairobi County Woman Representative Esther Muthoni Passaris.

Airing her views as pertaining the affordable housing bill which is currently undergoing public participation, as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya Passaris noted:

"I'm proud of all the Kenyans who have actively shared their opinions on the Affordable Housing Bill since the commencement of public participation last week. Currently, the exercise is ongoing in Kilifi County with Mombasa County awaiting their turn tomorrow. As legislators, we have three main functions: Representation, Oversight and Legislation. Specifically, my over-

sight committees focus on Lands, and Housing, Urban Planning, & Public Works."

The Constitution of Kenya highlights the importance of public participation.

Recognizing the benefits of public participation, the Constitution of Kenya created new spaces for interaction, declared the citizens sovereign and demanded that the public must be involved in every aspect of public governance. Article 10 of the Constitution lists public participation as one of the national values and principles of governance that binds all state organs, state and public officers, and all persons in Kenya whenever any of them

applies or interprets the Constitution, enacts, applies or interprets any laws, or makes or implements public policy decisions. The Government of Kenya is committed to ensuring the attainment of effective public participation. This commitment is demonstrated by the numerous provisions of the Constitution on public participation and Devolution. It is also demonstrated by the various policies, guidelines, and legislations on public participation

## Comfort Homes, Supported The Vision Of Gibson Murage



Mr Kamunge Macharia is the Sales manager at Comfort Homes.

By: John Kariuki  
 @themtkenyatimes

Founder and Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO) of Together As One which is the Mother Company of Comfort Homes, Dr Hon. Hezekiah Kariuki Mwangi is a man whose greatest achievement is when he lifts others and sees them prosper.

That's why he has been winning accolade after another more so due to his gentleman approach in handling the day to day running of Comfort Homes.

He on Saturday, through a representative, Mr. Kamunge Macharia, who is the Sales Manager at Comfort Homes, supported the Vision of Gibson Murage of Pacific furniture.

Mr Kamunge who spelt out

Dr. Kariuki's goodwill message to Mr. Murage noted:

"We are here to support this gentleman because he is a good example to many youths who keep complaining that there are no jobs.

Through his hardwork, he has built this furniture empire and we can only wish him the very best," Mr Kamunge Macharia noted.

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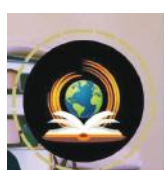
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Kuresoi South, Kuresoi North, Rongai, Nakuru West, Bahati, Subukia, Nakuru East, Gilgil

### Group 7

Mbeere South, Mbeere North, Chuka, Igamba Ngombe, Maara, Tharaka, Imenti South, Imenti Central, Buuri

### Group 8

Imenti North, Tigania East, Tigania West, Igembe Central, Igembe North, Igembe South, Manyatta, Runyenjes



FOOTBALL KENYA FEDERATION



MOSES KURIA FOUNDATION

# SPORTS NEWS

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**Sports >>** \*Cape Verde won an Africa Cup of Nations knockout tie for the first time in their history yesterday as a late Ryan Mendes penalty gave them a 1-0 victory over Mauritania in the last 16.

## Late Penalty Takes Cape Verde Into Cup Of Nations Quarter-Finals



Cape Verde's players carry Cape Verde's head coach Pedro Leitao Brito (UP) as they celebrate after the victory at the end of the Africa Cup of Nations (CAN) 2024 round of 16 football match between Cape Verde and Mauritania at the Felix Houphouet-Boigny Stadium in Abidjan on January 29, 2024. (Photo by Issouf SANOGO / AFP)

By AFP

Cape Verde won an Africa Cup of Nations knockout tie for the first time in their history yesterday as a late Ryan Mendes penalty gave them a 1-0 victory over Mauritania in the last 16.

The match at the Felix Houphouet Boigny Stadium in Abidjan was drifting towards extra time when Cape Verde won a spot-kick and captain Mendes converted with just two minutes of the 90 remaining to break Mauritania's resistance.

The Blue Sharks then held on through 10 added minutes to advance to a quarter-final on Saturday in Yamoussoukro against either Morocco or South Africa,

who meet in the last 16 on Tuesday.

The tiny Atlantic Ocean island nation had got out of their group in two of their three previous appearances at the AFCON, but had never before won a knockout tie.

Mauritania had been hoping to extend their fine run in Ivory Coast, after they won a Cup of Nations match for the first time in nine attempts in their last group game, beating Algeria to eliminate one of the continent's powerhouses.

But a side coached by Amir Abdou, who took tiny Comoros to the last 16 in Cameroon two years ago, will go no further after failing to find a way past Cape

Verde goalkeeper Vozinha.

The Chinguetti Lions will look back with regret at one fine chance just before the hour mark, when Souleymane Anne was played into a great position inside the box only to put his shot over.

Cape Verde looked the more likely team as the minutes ticked down, and Mendes came very close to scoring with a header from a corner that was well saved by Mauritania goalkeeper Babacar Niasse.

They were then awarded a penalty when substitute Gilson Tavares Benchimol was brought down in the box by Niasse after intercepting a poor header back from Mauritania defender Yassin

El Welly.

The Egyptian referee pointed to the spot, and Mendes, of Turkish side Fatih Karagumruk, smashed home the penalty, his second goal of the tournament making history for his country.

GET THE BEST OF WORLD

**Sports >>>** \*Bayern Munich were forced to deny yesterday that their coach Thomas Tuchel had talked about the Barcelona coaching job that Xavi Hernandez is vacating at the end of the season

# Bayern Deny Tuchel Talked About Barcelona Job



(FILES) This file photo taken on May 29, 2021 shows then Chelsea's German coach Thomas Tuchel celebrating the first goal during the UEFA Champions League final football match between Manchester City and Chelsea at the Dragao stadium in Porto. (Photo by PIERRE-PHILIPPE MARCOU / AFP)..

Bayern Munich were forced to deny yesterday that their coach Thomas Tuchel had talked about the Barcelona coaching job that Xavi Hernandez is vacating at the end of the season.

Xavi's announcement on Sunday that he will leave Barcelona at the end of the season has sparked a flurry of speculation about his possible successor.

At a Bayern fan club event later on Sunday, former Chelsea manager Tuchel said working "abroad will appeal to me again" at some point in his career.

Tuchel then talked in general about the Spanish La Liga and, according to some reports, he also spoke about the possibility of working at Barcelona.

Bayern's CEO Jan-Christian

Dreesen and sporting director Christoph Freund though issued an angry statement to insist that Tuchel "never spoke about Xavi Hernandez and his successor, as was falsely claimed afterwards".

Bayern added: "We will no longer accept such non-factual statements directed against our coach."

Arsenal's Spanish manager Mikel Arteta on Monday slammed

reports he was ready to quit the Premier League club to take over at Barcelona as "fake news".

AFP

# SPORTS NEWS



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# SPORTS AS THEY HAPPEN



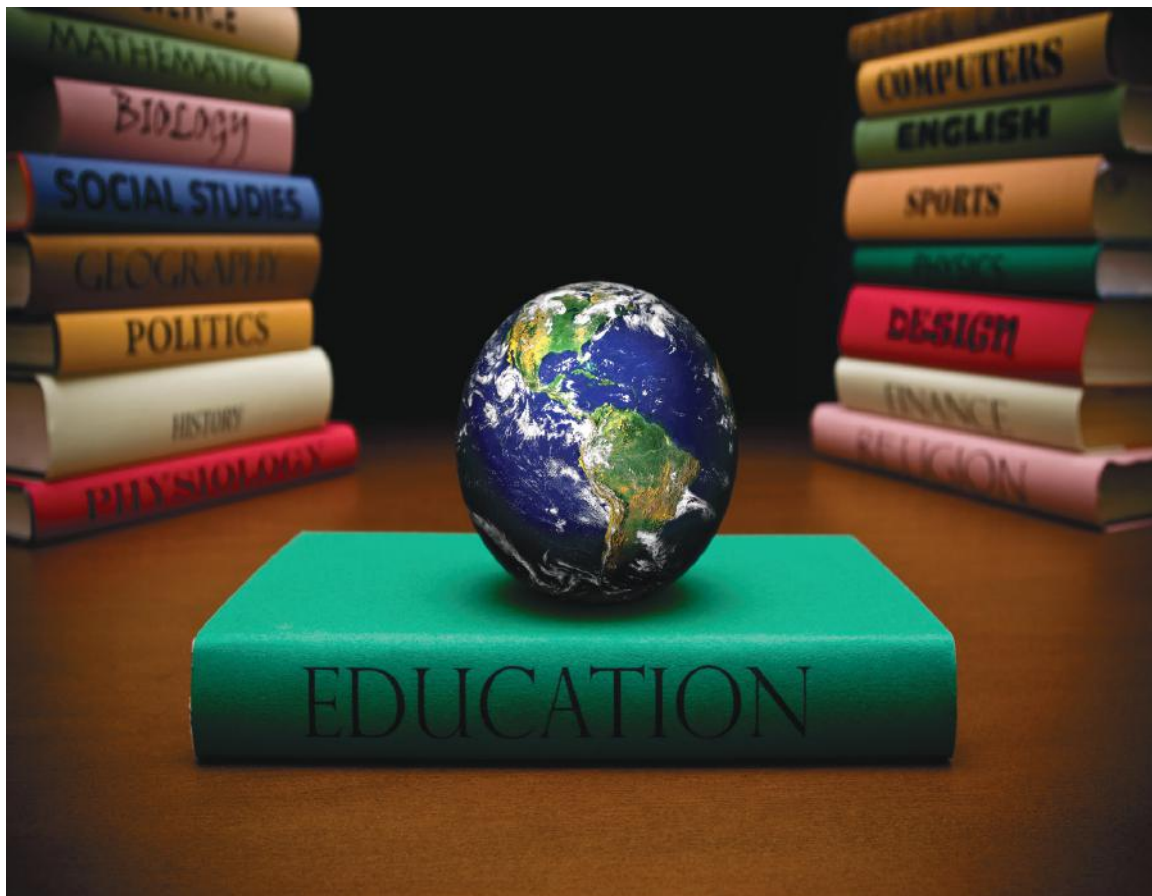
## The Role Of Activity In Education



By: Abduvaitova Maftuna  
@themkenyatimes

### Worth Noting:

- Research shows that using games in teaching can help increase student participation, foster social and emotional learning, and motivate students to take risks. In the context of English language learning, games have been found to promote students' willingness to communicate and improve their speaking skills.
- However, the specific role of action video games in teaching English in elementary grades is not explicitly detailed in the provided search results. For more specific information, a different query focusing on the impact of action video games on English language learning in elementary grades may be necessary.



Research indicates that using games in teaching English as a Foreign Language (EFL) can be effective. Games can increase student participation, foster social and emotional learning, and motivate students to take risks. Specifically, games can be beneficial in teaching grammar to young elementary students. The use of games in the teaching process is considered active if it takes up an average of 30% of learning time.

One study found that using flashcard games in teaching English vocabulary improved the memory of 5th-grade elementary school students. Another study aimed to determine the role of games in promoting students' willingness to communicate and their teachers' attitude toward it. However, the search results do not provide specific information on the role of action games in teaching English in elementary grades. It may be beneficial to refine the search query to focus on "action games" specifically.

Video games have been recognized as a potent media form that can be integrated into learning environments, including English Language Arts classrooms. They can bring about major changes in student en-

gagement and offer fresh possibilities as digital learning tools. Action games, one of the seven broadly agreed upon genres of games, are response-based video games.

Research shows that using games in teaching can help increase student participation, foster social and emotional learning, and motivate students to take risks. In the context of English language learning, games have been found to promote students' willingness to communicate and improve their speaking skills.

However, the specific role of action video games in teaching English in elementary grades is not explicitly detailed in the provided search results. For more specific information, a different query focusing on the impact of action video games on English language learning in elementary grades may be necessary.

Research indicates that video games can have a significant impact on language learning, including English language proficiency. They are particularly beneficial in areas such as vocabulary and communication. Video games provide a safe environment for learners to make mistakes and reflect on them, which is key to uninhibited language practice.

Game-based learning has the capacity to motivate students, activate knowledge, and enhance critical thinking capacities, which is beneficial for English language learners. However, the search results do not provide specific information on the impact of action video games on English language learning in elementary grades. A more specific search may yield more relevant results.

Several studies have demonstrated the positive effects of video games on vocabulary acquisition. An Action Research study showed that video games had a positive impact on vocabulary acquisition in a group of students. Another study found that online vocabulary games can be a useful tool for teaching and learning English vocabulary. Video games such as sports games and simulation games like "The Sims" have been found useful for language learning. A study on the effectiveness of using educational games for enhancing English vocabulary acquisition and retention in elementary grade pupils showed positive results. However, the specific impact of action video games on vocabulary acquisition in elementary grades is not directly addressed in the search results. A dif-

ferent query may be needed to find more specific information.

Research indicates that video games can have a positive impact on the acquisition of English language skills. There has been an increase in the number of school children proficient in English, and one of the reasons is the influence of video games. Video games can function alongside traditional texts in the English Language Arts (ELA) classroom. They can also help improve reading skills.

Research studies have concluded that video games enhance traditional learning methods and make mastering a new language like English fun and exciting. Game-based learning has the capacity to motivate students, activate knowledge, and enhance critical thinking capacities, which is true for English language learners as well as for native English speakers.

However, the specific impact of action video games on English language skills in elementary grades is not directly addressed in the search results. It may be beneficial to search specifically for studies or articles that focus on the impact of action video games on language acquisition in elementary school students.

The AI agent attempted to find a research article on the role of action games in the process of teaching English in elementary grades. It first conducted a general search on the topic, which yielded results about the effectiveness of games in teaching English, but not specifically about action games. The AI agent then refined the search to focus on action games, but the results still did not provide specific information about the role of action games in teaching English in elementary grades. The AI agent made further attempts to refine the search, focusing on the impact of action video games on English language learning and vocabulary acquisition in elementary grades, but the results still did not provide the specific information requested by the user.