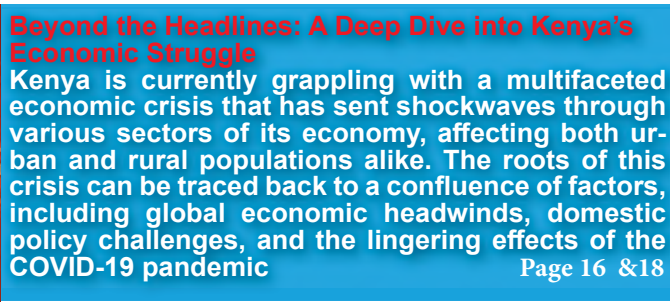




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P. 8. Pastor Dorcas Rigathi over the weekend accelerated the fight against alcohol and drug abuse in the Lower Eastern Region of Kenya.



P. 12. The government has procured 2.5 million bags of subsidized fertilizer for distribution to farmers during the short rains season.

I Am Ready To Work With New Cabinet - Gachagua

 Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua says he fully supports President William Ruto's decision on the appointment of new Cabinet Secretaries and is ready to work with the nominees upon approval by Parliament. Mr Gachagua said that his work is to assist the President, and he is okay with the formation of a broad-based government, under which four members of the opposition party have been nominated to the new Cabinet.



.Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

STORY ON PAGE 9

Ruto Has Directed A One Government Development Approach Strategy - PS Wang'ombe

By: Paul Mwangi and William Muchiri
@themkenyaintimes

Worth Noting:

- The two Principal Secretaries accessed the progress made by their Basic Education counterpart Belio Kipsang' in collaboration with the Nyeri Town National Government Development Fund (NG-CDF).
- The leaders visited Kwa Nderi Primary School, Giakanja Boys High School and Giakanja Primary School where they also motivated learners to work hard in their studies.



Department of Gender Principal Secretary Ann Wang'ombe, her Correctional Services counterpart Salome Muhia and Nyeri Town MP Maina Mathenge poses for a photo with at Giakanja Boys students, some teachers and other stakeholders at the institution last Friday. Photo/PAUL WANJIRU.

The State is rolling out a one government approach strategy as a driving engine of fast-tracking development projects countrywide.

President William Ruto has directed the Executive and Legislative arms of government to partner in accelerating development at the grassroots.

Department of Gender Principal Secretary Ann Wang'ombe, her Correctional Services counterpart Salome Muhia and Nyeri Town MP Maina Mathenge spent the better part of Friday in inspecting key projects rolled out by the government in various schools.

The two Principal Secretaries accessed the progress made by their Basic Education counterpart Belio Kipsang' in collaboration with the Nyeri Town National Government Development Fund (NG-CDF).

The leaders visited Kwa Nderi Primary School, Giakanja Boys High School and Giakanja Primary School where they also motivated learners to work hard in their studies.

Wang'ombe averred that President Ruto has tasked them to collaborate with Members of Parliament in speeding up completion of all the government projects.

"We have made this tour pursuant to the clarion call of the President to embrace a one-government-approach. We have collaborated with the legislative arm of government to assist in assessing the transformation made by the State Department of Basic Education in our schools," the PS said.

Her department, in partnership with that of ICT, donated 20 computers to Giakanja Boys High School.

"This tour also provides us with the opportunity to connect with the citizens at the grassroots as directed by the President. We believe in empowerment of our children and we know that the best step is through education," Wang'ombe said.

On her part, PS Muhia said: "This is the exact concept of a whole-government-approach. We are putting our heads together as government to accelerate development for our people. We want to take this country ahead in terms of development by the end of this financial year".

MP Mathenge said the one-government-approach has helped in transforming the country in all sectors of the economy.

"Our learners are undertaking their end of term exams and that is why we found it the best chance to encourage them to perform better. The idea is to role-model

our learners in this constituency so that they realize that they have the potential to scale the academic ladder," Mathenge said.

The leaders inspected progress in construction of ultra-modern laboratories for Junior Secondary Schools (JSS), replacement of asbestos roofs, construction of multi-purpose halls and construction of classrooms.

The two PSs also toured Gikondi Boys High School in Mukurwe-ini Constituency for similar activities.

"The reason as to why we opted to visit boys' secondary schools is to ensure that no child is left behind in terms of mentorship. We want to encourage the boy child too," Wang'ombe said.

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Mama Judith Ongoro



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NEWS IN BRIEF



Nandi County Youth Fund in collaboration with Underit Youth Group, which is an implementing partner of USAID, Act and Uraia Trust in the area has mentored upcoming youth groups that mainly comprise of Gen Zs in a bid to empower them economically and socially. Speaking during the mentorship engagement held at Kebisem Location in Nandi, Underit Youth Group (UYG) coordinator Jacob Sanga noted that youth groups are one of the best platforms that can enable the young generation to identify the issues affecting them, thus take part in public participation to enhance development in the community. Sanga noted that youths form one of the best key peace promoters, adding that they should be mentored to deal with idleness, which may lead them to engage in activities that can ruin their lives due to lack of employment in the modern society.

Farmers have been urged embrace Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) technologies that sustainably increase productivity, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enable communities to adapt and build resilience to climate change. Kitui county governor Dr. Julius Malombe has said that climate change impacts had negatively affected food production, thus affecting livelihoods of the people in the area. Speaking when he presided over the official opening of this year's Kitui Agricultural Show and Trade Fair, being held at Ithokwe Showground in Kitui Central Constituency, Dr. Malombe noted that Climate change is an undeniable reality that poses insignificant challenges globally, hence the need for mitigation measures to fight the same.



The Kericho County government has embarked on a Sh 10 million revamping of the Kericho Kenya National Library Service (KNLS) facility that will cater to the information needs of its users through modern ICT technologies. The County Governor Dr. Eric Mutai revealed this during an inspection tour of the ongoing renovations at Kericho KNLS facility, whose functions have ceded to the county administration.



Moses Wetang'ula Hits Out To Leaders In Western Opposed To National Unity Government

By: Sefu Sabila
@themtkenyatimes

National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetangu'la yesterday hit out to leaders from Western Kenya opposed to National unity government led by President William Ruto. Speaking in Bungoma, Wetangu'la further questioned the leaders' motive of opposing an inclusive government, as the rest of the country has welcomed the move. He argued that the country was in the right direction in calling out for peace, after four members from the Orange Democratic Movement Party (ODM), were nominated in various ministries. He further lauded the efforts by William Ruto and Raila Odinga for putting aside their differences and embracing calls for peace and unity. "The country is in a trajectory of

healing. I want to thank our Kenya Kwanza government and Raila Odinga and his party for accepting that the country is bigger than an individual, and together we can build a better Kenya. This is the only way of bring people together," he stated. He further urged the residents to pray for leaders in the region opposed to unity of the country, "I want us to pray for leaders who do not want the unity of Kenyans to have change of heart and join the journey of uniting the nation," he urged. His sentiments comes barely a day before leaders from the region led by Trans Nzoia governor George Nantembeya announced a meeting for leaders from the region in Kakamega today, July 29 to deliberate the way forward for Mulembe Nation. Nantembeya criticized the National Assembly Speaker for embracing the pick, yet despite being third in command in the country received no nomination of his people to the cab-



National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang'ula addressing residents in Bungoma where he condemned leaders from the region opposed to National unity. Photo: Moses Wetang'ula..

inet. The leaders met who in Nairobi last Friday, included ODM secretary general Edwin Sifuna, and ODM MPs from the region and other political parties affiliated to the Opposition coalition.

Earlier, Sifuna had said the nominated CS decision to join the Kenya Kwanza government was not linked to the party, but and it was an individual decision, as the four members had no blessings from the party. However, through his official ac-

count, Saboti Lawmaker Caleb Amisi, said the meeting was postponed to undisclosed date to allow leaders from the region to comeback from their foreign trips.

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**THEME: "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and
Trade Initiatives for sustainable Economic Growth"**



Hope As Scores Of Murang'a Youth Graduate With Artisan Certificates

By: Kenya News Agency

Worth Noting:

- The administration of Governor Irungu Kang'ata established the county youth service programme last year to engage unemployed young people in a three-month community work and afterwards be trained on various courses of their choice.
- Kang'ata who presided over the graduation ceremony of the youths at Ihura stadium said his administration will provide Sh15, 000 to all the graduates as a seed capital to help them venture in various businesses.



Murang'a County governor Irungu Kang'ata gifting one of the graduates.

Participants of the first cohort of Murang'a Youth Service programme have graduated with certificates on various artisan courses.

The group of more than 700 youngsters was sponsored by the county government to undertake a three-month training in local vocational training centres managed by the National Industrial Training Authority (NITA).

The administration of Governor Irungu Kang'ata established the county youth service programme last year to engage unemployed young people in a three-month community work and afterwards be trained on various courses of their choice.

Kang'ata who presided over the graduation ceremony of the youths at Ihura stadium said his administration will provide Sh15, 000 to all the graduates as a seed capital to help them venture in various businesses.

He said for those who will establish businesses in towns within the county, they will be exempted from paying tax among other required charges for a period of one year in order to help their businesses grow.

"My administration came up with this programme to mitigate the increased unemployment rate in the county. In every cohort, 30 youths are picked to join the youth service, where every day they earn Sh400 for the first three months, when they are engaged in community work.

"After the community works, the participants are enrolled in local vocational training centres to pursue artisan courses of their choice," explained Kang'ata.

The governor underscored the importance of programme, saying those who passed the NITA examination can secure employment not only in the country, but also abroad.

"NITA certificate is recognized by some foreign countries and those who passed with first grade can try to source for employment abroad," he added.

Kang'ata challenged the young people to advance on the training saying the county government will start issuing bursaries, beginning next year to

enable the vulnerable to proceed with further training.

The Murang'a youth service programme, has since its inception, benefited 3, 150 youths with the second cohort currently in vocational centres, while the third cohort engaged in community work.

Kang'ata said the programme is a continuous effort to empower and support the local young people.

The governor who was accompanied by founder of Equity bank Peter Munga encouraged the graduates to utilize the skills they have gained to transform their lives and as well of those of their communities.

Some of the MCAs present at the function, called for expansion of the programme saying 30 slots for every ward in cohort were not enough.

Led by Kahumbu MCA Chefman Isaac Njoroge, the MCAs said they will consider pushing for an increase of more funding to support programmes aimed at creating jobs for young people.

Njoroge asked the national government not to reduce allocation to county governments saying locals are looking forward to more developments at the grassroots.

Nominated MCA Sharleen Wambui asked the contractors given works by the county government to consider employing graduates of the programme.

"There are many constructions spearheaded by the county government and we request these graduates who have skills in masonry, plumbing, electrical wiring among others to be considered when employing technicians. We also appeal to local manufacturing companies to provide jobs to our youths," she appealed.

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Pastor Dorcas Takes The Fight Against Alcohol, Drugs To The Eastern Region

By: ODP

Worth Noting:

- She reminded the nation of the critical position men occupy in society as the “seed carriers” who propagate generations, and warned against the drinking of illicit brews that result in men losing their vigor for siring children.
- “Alcohol and drug abuse does not choose religion. We have very serious addictions, in all religions, and across races. Drug addiction is in all homes, among the poor and the rich. This is a demon traversing all boundaries ravaging our children and communities. Many mothers and fathers are troubled, and we must do something about it,” said Pastor Dorcas.
- She also cautioned on the increasing number of widows in the country, where homes are manned by women, as men lose their lives from accidents caused by drunk driving.



The spouse of the Deputy President Pastor Dorcas Rigathi dances to a rap song against alcohol and drugs during the alcohol and drugs sensitization meeting that brought together 5,000 clergy and 3,000 high school students and their teachers from the lower eastern region of Kenya on Saturday. Photo/ODP.

Pastor Dorcas Rigathi over the weekend accelerated the fight against alcohol and drug abuse in the Lower Eastern Region of Kenya.

In a mega meeting that brought together more than 5,000 clergy and 3,000 high school students and teachers from across the region, Pastor Dorcas advocated for the involvement of the clergy in rescuing those in addictions.

She also spoke to high school students, separately, as part of the preventive program against addictions at the Machakos University grounds, saying, “I am going to continue with the affirmative action for the boy child, so the men can live and not die, and also keep away from alcohol and drugs”.

She reminded the nation of the critical position men occupy in society as the “seed carriers” who propagate generations, and warned against the drinking of illicit brews that result in men losing their vigor for siring children.

“Alcohol and drug abuse does not choose religion. We have very serious addictions, in all religions, and across races. Drug addiction is in all homes, among the poor and the rich. This is a demon traversing all boundaries ravaging our children and communities. Many mothers and fathers are troubled, and we must do something about it,” said Pastor Dorcas.

She also cautioned on the increasing

number of widows in the country, where homes are manned by women, as men lose their lives from accidents caused by drunk driving.

“Alcohol and drug abuse will directly affect one who is not drunk and intoxicated. When a driver of a matatu, bus or private car meets with one who is drunk and driving, they are a danger to you, your family, and the children they carry in school buses. And in our nation, many accidents have happened and many have died. Sadly, the number of persons with disabilities are increasing, and also the number of widows,” said Pastor Dorcas.

She said that together with all stakeholders and like-minded partners the vice of addiction must be combated.

NACADA officials led by Eastern Region Regional Manager Alex Njeru informed the students and clergy on the emerging trends in drug abuse and ways of handling those in addictions during rehabilitation, post-rehabilitation, and even caring for those who relapse.

“Kenyans have a habit of binge drinking ‘chafua meza’ , a situation where alcoholic drinks line a table. However, these kinds of leisure activities that involve addictive substances result in increased family problems, malnutrition, and cancer of the mouth, stomach, and throat among others,” warned Mr Njeru.

Denis Kinyua, a beneficiary of the boy child program, who was rehabil-

itated under the Embu cohort shared about his journey in addictions, and how the rehabilitation program under Pastor Dorcas changed his life, and was now working in a supermarket alcohol and drug free.

Counselling Psychologist Fred Oso reminded the students of the skills and talents they were endowed with, including knowledge gained in school for their advancement in life. He warned the students about the dangers of drugs in their quest for productivity and success.

Also present were DCC David Rotich, Association for Pentecostal and Evangelical Clergy of Kenya (APECK) Chairman, Machakos County Bishop Charles Kababu, National Chair United Clergy Alliance Bishop Francis Mulinge, APECK Regional Director Lower Eastern Bishop Joel Nzomo, APECK Regional Director Mount Kenya Bishop Barnabas Mpekethi, and APECK National Chairman Rev Fredrick Ngugi.

“The youth of this country are important and precious assets that need to be protected and nurtured so they become useful in the future,” said DCC Rotich.

Bishop Nzomo said the majority of choir members in churches were of the female gender, and even when installing elders, men were still missing. He appreciated Pastor Dorcas for bringing the Boy Child Rehabilitation program to the Eastern Region,

and urged the clergy present to embrace the vision and start community rehabilitation in their churches.

In the forum, it was discussed that alcohol, drug, and substance menace was a public health issue that needed the intervention and response of all sectors that include educationists, health experts, and the religious leaders.

Machakos University Vice Chancellor Prof. Joyce Agalo warned that the effects of addictions result to student drop-outs, abusive relationships, poor health, constrained family relationships, low academic performance, loss of future opportunities, loss of self-identity, and even suicide.

However, the university had established support systems for students that included counselling, peer counsellors, an office for career services, continued education and awareness, and equipped labs to encourage innovation and save a generation. She urged youth to reflect on their lives, and focus on their life goals.

Success stories of inpatient and outpatient community-based rehabilitation in other parts of the country, including the Coast, Rift Valley, and Central were shared to guide and encourage the thousands of clergy to join in the fight against alcohol and drugs and rescue boys and men.

I Am Ready To Work With New Cabinet - Gachagua

By: DPCS

Worth Noting:

- Mr Gachagua said the four nominees -Wycliffe Oparanya, Hassan Joho, John Mbadi and Opiyo Wandayi, picked from Orange Democratic Movement are welcome to the Cabinet.
- Addressing worshipers at St Stephen Catholic Parish, Karoroha Holy Family Church in Kinangop, Nyandarua County, after the Holy Mass, Mr Gachagua said the broad-based government will help the President succeed in implementing his development plan.
- “We have no problem (with formation of broad-based Government by the President); we are contented with his decision. Let the new nominees come we work together for the people of Kenya. My work is to support the President, be loyal, advise and work with him,” said Mr Gachagua.



Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua, Nyandarua governor Kiarie Badilisha, Senator John Methu and other leaders during a Sunday Mass at St. Stephen Catholic Church in Kinangop yesterday.

Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua says he fully supports President William Ruto’s decision on the appointment of new Cabinet Secretaries and is ready to work with the nominees upon approval by Parliament.

Mr Gachagua said that his work is to assist the President, and he is okay with the formation of a broad-based government, under which four members of the opposition party have been nominated to the new Cabinet.

“I have no objection with the new nominees and formation of broad-based Government by the President. Let the new nominees come we work together for the people of Kenya. As the Deputy President and Principal Assistant to the President, my work is to support him, respect and be loyal to him. I support his decisions,” said Mr Gachagua dispelling claims of discontentment.

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Nyandarua County, after the Holy Mass, Mr Gachagua said the broad-based government will help the President succeed in implementing his development plan.

“We have no problem (with formation of broad-based Government by the President); we are contented with his decision. Let the new nominees come we work together for the people of Kenya. My work is to support the President, be loyal, advise and work with him,” said Mr Gachagua.

Asking Kenyans to rally behind the President, the DP said he will continue carrying out his mandate as the principal assistant to the President.

After the Church service, the Deputy President addressed the people at Engineer Town, where he reiterated his call for national unity and asked leaders embrace each other.

He urged Kenyans to participate in governance, decision-making processes.

“Voters and Kenyans in general should start questioning their leaders to enhance accountability in governance and make the leaders accountable on the decisions they make on public issues. The political leaders that are being used to pull

others down and drive a wedge in the Mt Kenya community should be cautious because their mission will fail,” he said.

Similarly, Mr Gachagua called on political leaders to focus their energies on pushing for issues that will benefit the socio-economic growth of the people and shun propaganda and divisive politics of ‘pulling down top leaders’.

On development, the Deputy President highlighted the government’s development plan and stated that the Ruto administration will increase access to subsidised to reach more farmers to improve the country’s food productivity.

“We will supply more fertilizer so that all farmers can benefit and concentrate on food production. Construction of Nyandarua Industrial Park, is ongoing to benefit farmers. Plans for construction of Engineer market are ongoing and other projects,” said Mr Gachagua.

He added that the government has set aside Ksh1 billion to boost rural electricity program in Nyandarua County and connect more rural households to power.

He further announced that the government has allocated funds for es-

tablishment of a Museum in honour of former freedom fighters Dedan Kimathi and Mukami Kimathi.

“Funds for construction of a Museum for our freedom hero Kimathi and his wife Mukami have been set aside,” he said.

He was accompanied by Nyandarua Governor Dr Kiarie Badilisha, Deputy Governor Mathara Mwangi, Senators John Methu (Nyandarua) and Karungo Thang’wa (Kiambu), Naivasha MP Jayne Kihara and MCAs led by Nyandarua County Assembly Majority leader Mwangi Nyagah, among other leaders.

Mr Gachagua further castigated those criticising him over his decision to advocate for unity and being available to the people.

“I have a weakness of loving my people from from Mt Kenya backyard. You may have to forgive me. It does not mean I have a problem with the other Kenyans. The rest of Kenya are also our friends and we talk same language and we understand each other.

Let us love each other, support each other, stay close to each other and care for each other,” he stated.

George Ntembeya Throws Jab To Newly Nominated Cabinet Secretaries



By: Sefu Sabila
@themkenyetimes

Trans Nzoia County Governor George Ntembeya is the latest political elite from the Western Region to throw shade to President William Ruto's second batch of his cabinet. According to Ntembeya, the comparison narrative between Kenya and Singapore should not be projected, as we are not doing what the two countries are doing to drive the economy. Additionally, he said the constitution of Kenya requires one to have a university degree to merit for nomination and appointment to work as a cabinet secretary. "We cannot talk about Malaysia and Singapore, while not doing what they are doing, when those qualified individuals are at home doing nothing, because they don't have connection. The constitution states that for one to hold the position of a CS, one should have a university degree," he said. Ntembeya further criticized the team for lacking credential, without mentioning names; he said a number of those selected cannot point out their classmates. "Some of those nominated cannot even point out their classmates, we looking for graduates when the country is full of technocrats who have talent have not been sought out, how then as a country will we get out of poverty?" Ntembeya questioned. He further criticized the opposition for using the anti-government protests led by the Gen Zs in the country to gain positions, and failing to do what they are mandated. "The Gen z raised very serious issues, it is now being said that the changes made by the president is what the Gen zs wanted. People children have died others abducted. As opposition, we are mandated to check the government as opposition without fear as it is in the constitution of Kenya," Ntembeya added. On Wednesday, July 24, Ruto named his second batch of cabinet secretaries, including key officials from the Orange Democratic Movement Party (ODM). Those nominated include nominated MP John Mbadi as CS National Treasury, former Mombasa governor Ali Hassan Joho CS mining, Ugunja MP Opiyo Wandayi CS energy and petroleum, former Kakamega governor Wycliffe Oparanya CS cooperatives and SMMEs. According to political experts in the country, Ruto has shifted his burden to the opposition side, with the crucial ministries mandated to achieve the bottom-up economic agenda of the Kenya Kwanza government.



Trans Nzoia governor George Ntembeya at a past press briefing. Photo: George Ntemb



Munene Mugambi: A Guardian Of Justice And The Community



By: Aoma Keziah
@themtkenyentimes

Worth Noting:

- Beyond his immense contributions to policing oversight, he has been instrumental in advancing the field of criminology through his role with the Professional Criminologists Association of Kenya (PCAK). Founded as a membership association aimed at bringing together criminology practitioners, PCAK under Mugambi's leadership has become a cornerstone for professional development and knowledge-sharing in the region.
- PCAK's mission is to infuse professional experiences into criminological practices and policies has been greatly enhanced by Founding Chairman's leadership. His efforts to create a cohesive network of criminologists have fostered an environment of collaboration and continuous learning. This has not only strengthened the field, but also ensured that practices and policies are grounded in both theory and real-world application.

In the rolling hills and verdant landscapes of Tharaka Nithi County, a man known for his profound impact on both law enforcement, and community development stands as an epitome of philanthropy and leadership. Founding Chairman (FC) Munene Mugambi as they call him, a name synonymous with justice and civic duty, has carved a path of distinction in various roles that span across law enforcement oversight, criminology, and community leadership.

A Foundation of Justice and Oversight

Mr. Mugambi's journey into the realm of justice and public service began with his role as a paramilitary officer and later a decorated and an award winning Detective serving with DCI and currently serving with the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) as Director of Inspections, Monitoring and Preventive Services. The body was established to address public concerns over police conduct and ensure accountability, IPOA was envisioned as a watchdog over Kenya's National Police Service striving to create a more transparent and accountable policing system.

Championing Criminology and Professionalism

Beyond his immense contributions to policing oversight, he has been instrumental in advancing the field of criminology through his role with the Professional Criminologists Association of Kenya (PCAK). Founded as a membership association aimed at bringing together criminology practitioners, PCAK under Mugambi's leadership has become a cornerstone for professional development and knowledge-sharing in the region.

PCAK's mission is to infuse professional experiences into criminological practices and policies has been greatly enhanced by Founding Chairman's leadership. His efforts to create a cohesive network of criminologists have fostered an environment of collaboration and continuous learning. This has not only strengthened the field, but also ensured that practices and policies are grounded in both theory and real-world application.

As a membership-based organization that brings together criminology practitioners, PCAKs core activities and functions are: Professional Development that offers training, workshops, and seminars to enhance the skills and knowledge of criminologists aiming to keep members updated on the latest trends, techniques, and research in criminology. In Networking, the association provides a platform for criminologists to connect with peers, share experiences, and collaborate on various projects and initiatives. This networking is crucial for professional growth and for fostering a community of practice. In advocacy and Policy Influence, it works on advocating for better policies and practices within the criminal

justice system which they may engage with policymakers, contribute to discussions on criminology-related issues, and work towards improving the legal and institutional frameworks in Kenya and East Africa.

On research and publications, the association often supports and promotes research in criminology. They might publish research findings, case studies, and other relevant materials to advance the field and inform both practitioners and the public. Additionally, on ethical standards, it likely plays a role in setting and upholding ethical standards for criminologists. They may provide guidelines and support for ethical practice in criminology. Also, on community engagement, the association may engage in community outreach and educational programs aimed at raising awareness about crime prevention and the role of criminologists in society and Provide support and resources for its members, including access to professional development opportunities, mentorship programs, and possibly career services.

A Symbol of Cultural Reverence

Mugambi's influence extends beyond professional spheres into the heart of his Meru-Tharaka Nithi community. Recently, he was honored with the esteemed position of Community Elder championed by Mathiru clan with roots in Mwimbi sub-tribe of the Meru community. The well-attended public ceremony was held in Tharaka-Nithi County. This accolade represents a deep recognition of his commitment to the community and his role in philanthropy, promoting and preserving the Meru cultural values.

As a Meru Community Elder, Mugambi's responsibilities go beyond ceremonial duties. He is seen as a custodian and pillar of community unity, culture and wisdom. His role involves mediating conflicts, offering guidance on community matters, and ensuring cultural values are promoted and upheld in contemporary settings. This position allows him to bridge the gap between modernity and tradition, reflecting his multifaceted contributions to both his professional and cultural spheres.

Advocacy and Educational Support
In addition to his roles in justice and criminology, he has also served as a patron to the board of a public primary school, a board member to a public secondary school and a patron to a Primary School Alumni Association. His involvement with such associations underscores his commitment to educational development and support for young learners. By championing educational initiatives and supporting alumni activities, he helps foster a nurturing environment for the next generation of leaders and professionals.

A Legacy of Selfless Service

Mr Mugambi's life and career reflect a profound dedication to selfless service,

justice, and community. His work with IPOA has set high standards for policing oversight, while his contributions to PCAK have advanced the field of criminology in East Africa. His recent elevation as a Meru Community Elder highlights his deep-rooted connection to his cultural heritage, and his patronage of the Primary School Alumni Association demonstrates his unwavering commitment to educational advancement.

As a figure who seamlessly blends professional expertise with community service, FC; Munene Mugambi stands as an exemplary model of professionalism, integrity and leadership. His story is not just about individual achievements but about a broader impact on justice, education, and cultural preservation. In Meru community and at national stage, his legacy continues to inspire and guide future generations, reminding us all of the profound difference one dedicated individual can make.



FC Mugambi Enthroned as Meru community Elder, in a ceremony held in Tharakan Nithi.



FC Mugambi handing in a book on 'History of Ameru and the Rise of Njuri Ncheke' to CJ Hon. Martha Koome.



FC Mugambi at a peace building community soccer tournament finals in Pangani.

Government To Distribute Million Bags Of Subsidized Fertilizer

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes

The government has procured 2.5 million bags of subsidized fertilizer for distribution to farmers during the short rains season.

Agriculture Principal Secretary Dr. Kipronoh Ronoh said the fertilizer was already in National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) stores adding that the ministry was in the process of issuing E-Vouchers to farmers to secure the fertilizer ahead of the short rains planting season.

The PS said this will bring to a total of 8.5 million bags of subsidized fertilizer distributed this year adding that the program has registered tremendous success.

To ensure that the fertilizer gets to farmers on time, he said, the government was in the process of engaging agro dealers to expand the coverage.

The initiative, he said will see farmers across the country collect government subsidised fertilizer, seeds and pesticides at an agro dealer next to

them reducing the time wasted going for the commodity at the nearby NCPB stores.

“We have instructed the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) to ensure that all the agro dealers have the right professionals in place before we roll out this initiative,” he said.

The government, he added, has put in place stringent measures to ensure that only the specified fertilizer and seeds get to farmers through the various channels.

Speaking during the Kisumu Regional Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) show, the PS lauded the fertilizer subsidy program saying through the intervention agricultural productivity has increased.

During the 2023 crop production seasons a total of 60.2 million bags (90kgs) of maize, 7.14 million bags (90kg) beans and 4.89 million bags (90kg) of wheat and 189,024 metric tonnes of rice were produced.

This, he said, has seen food insecurity decrease from 2.7 million in July 2023 to 1.9 in June 2024.

The improved production, he said, is expected to be sustained this year



Department of Agriculture Principal Secretary Paul Ronoh in Kisumu last week. He is with among others, the Agricultural society CEO Batram Muthoka and Kenya Seed Company chairperson Wangui Ngirichi.

with the country expecting bumper maize harvests.

“We are advising farmers to build more storage facilities because we expect to have a bumper harvest. The

NCPB is also prepared and will purchase the maize from our farmers at an agreed price,” he said.

The ministry of agriculture has registered 6.42 million farmers up from

1.3 million in 2022 urging all farmers to ensure they are in the database to benefit from the available services including subsidised fertilizer.

NGO In Partnership With Universities To Promote Essential Courses In Mt Kenya

By: MKT Reporter
@themkenyatimes

A Non-Governmental Organisation, Teach2Give has partnered with several public and private universities in mount Kenya region in various fields.

The NGO is on a mission to transform education and employment prospects in Kenya through the training which targets youth interested in Information Technology, Finance and Customer Services marketing, among others courses.

Their main objective is to provide students with essential attachments, enabling them to earn their degrees, obtain work permits, and become legitimate employees.

Their commitment does not end with attachments as they also offer mentorship programs to sharpen skills those fields.

Last week saw some 135 students graduate and issued with certificates



Nyeri County Deputy Governor David Kinaniri addressing graduands and guests of Teach2Give initiative last week.

in a colourful ceremony that took place in Nyeri town and presided over by Nyeri Deputy Governor David Kinaniri.

The graduation took place after

the students completed their twelve-week attachment in computer science, software engineering, software deployment and data quality engineering.

Teach2Give has partnered with different universities in the Mount Kenya region such Laikipia University, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Kirinyaga University,

Murang’a University and Chuka University.

Since the first cohort was launched in 2021, many young people have benefited from this program.

During the ceremony, the Deputy governor encouraged the students to embrace new opportunities, seek out challenges, and never stop striving for excellence in whatever they do.

“The County Government of Nyeri wishes to thank the Universities and other stakeholders who have worked with Teach2Give to bring hope and opportunities to these brilliant minds. We also welcome other youths to grab these opportunities,” the deputy governor said.

Kinaniri was accompanied by among others, Martin Ndirangu, Country Manager - Head of Growth and Strategic Alliances, Esther Ndung’u, CECM Youth, Gender and Sports, Prof Ndirangu Kioni, Mark Allen, the CEO Jitu among others.

TotalEnergies, M-Gas Join Forces To Provide Affordable, Clean Cooking Solutions

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

In a move to enhance clean cooking accessibility in Kenya, TotalEnergies Marketing Kenya has partnered with M-Gas to scale its affordable Pay-as-You-Cook technology that seeks to Impact over 1 million lives annually in Kenya.

Through this collaboration, M-Gas will provide its revolutionary pay-as-you-cook Smart Meters installed on TotalEnergies' LPG cylinders, while TotalEnergies will provide the cooking gas.

The Proprietary Smart Meter from M-Gas democratizes LPG for consumers who otherwise could not afford the upfront cost of buying Gas.

This technology enables customers to cook a meal with as little as KSh10 via mobile money payments, addressing the high-cost barrier of purchasing

LPG upfront.

In addition, families benefit from health advantages by switching from traditional cooking methods like charcoal to more affordable and less polluting LPG.

"We are very happy to partner with M-Gas in actualizing TotalEnergies' ambition of developing access to clean cooking in Kenya. Through this shared vision with M-Gas, we aim to have a positive impact in Kenya that will not only impact the environment, people's health but also reduce gender inequalities, especially time poverty for women. The partnership is also aligned to the vision by the Government of Kenya of increasing LPG penetration and consumption per capita in the country" said Mr. Fanchini.

About 400,000 households are currently using the M-Gas solution, impacting over 2 million lives in Kenya.

"The partnership with TotalEnergies enables M-Gas to scale our mission of providing an affordable clean cooking

solution to households across Kenya. Leveraging our proprietary smart meter technology and elaborate last mile infrastructure alongside TotalEnergies' extensive supply infrastructure, this partnership will expand our reach to a wider previously underserved market, making clean cooking accessible to more families. Together, we will expand LPG usage to meet national targets and driving transformative change that benefits both people and the planet," said Mr. Kimani.

This partnership creates a brand new clean cooking business model which has the potential to scale across the entire continent, in line with TotalEnergies' ambition of giving 100 million people in Africa and India access to clean cooking by 2030 as announced by the TotalEnergies last May, at the Clean Cooking Summit organized by the International Energy Agency (IEA).



TotalEnergies Marketing Kenya Managing Director Eric Fanchini (left) and M-Gas Chief Executive Officer Martin Kimani in a cooking demonstration during the launch of their co-branded LPG cylinder. The metered cylinder is designed to deepen access to innovative Pay-as-you-Cook clean cooking solutions to low-income households in Kenya.

KTDA Chairman Enos Njeru Elected Board Member For Embu Region

By: MKT Reporter
@themtkenyatimes

Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) board chairman Enos Njeru has secured his directorship seat, where he will be representing tea farmers from the Embu region.

Njeru was voted back unopposed during the exercise held at Mungania Tea Factory last Friday. With the direct ticket, Njeru is expected to defend his national seat in a few days' time.

"Going unopposed was a sign of confidence and trust they have in me by leading and serving tea sector and farmers across the country. I can't fail to congratulate all the re-elected and newly elected board members from other zones," he said after he was issued with a certificate.

He added, "I pledge to work closely, passionately, diligently and with high level of integrity and humility with the new team to maintain sanity

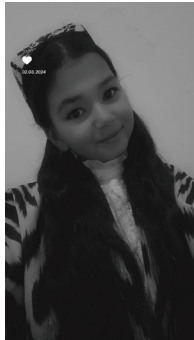
and steer growth in the tea industry to increase returns to our farmers. I will champion tea consumption culture in our country and, if possible, innovate new products that will relate better with the younger generation,"

Of his desire to defend his national seat and to lead the more than 650,000 small scale tea growers, Njeru quipped, "I request and urge all the elected board members to support me in the forthcoming National chairmanship position for me to be able to deliver what I started in the past one year of my chairmanship,".



KTDA chairman Enos Njeru receiving a certificate that confirmed him as the KTDA Zone 6 board member.

Mother!



Mother! I can't find words to describe you.
 You spend tons of sleepless nights.
 Your heart is white, your words are white,
 your intentions are white,
 If I am sick, you pat my head.

Mom, I love your smile
 When you laugh, there is always joy and no sadness.
 You are the joy of the family, my

mother.
 Without you there is no happiness and no smile!

Rahmiddinova Mushtariy Ravshan's daughter was born on March 1, 2011 in Gulistan district of Syrdarya region. She is now in 8th grade. Mushtariy is interested in reading poetry, reading books, painting. He appeared on television in kindergarten at the age of 3 and continues to appear on television until now. Participated in the Bilimdon competition. Participates in many contests. She will take up his profession in the future. He is preparing for admission. His dream is that everyone should be proud of Mushtariy. God willing, all dreams will come true.

My Country



Hello motherland, hello land,
 I was born and grew up in this country.
 I'm sure we'll be beautiful today.
 It's all because of you!

Birds fly in your sky,
 How about your air?
 Every woman goes through the motions,
 You are the reason for everything!

The magic of the motherland lives in the

heart,
 Life is different,
 Thank you for reaching this day.
 You are the reason for everything!

We live in a time of development.
 We are moving forward,
 Not even thinking about how it will be now,
 We are going to high mountains

Kuramboeva Sarvinoz

Kuramboeva is a 10th-grade student of school 23, Shavot district, Sarvinoz-Khorazm region. In 2020-2021, she was awarded 2 gold and silver medals in the KHISO international online Olympiad in Mother Language and Literature. In 2022-2023, corruption , won the 1st place in the contests such as the constitution, my native language. brought various valuable gifts.

My Mother Tongue



It has a rich history of two thousand years
 My people benefited from it for 2 thousand years

Every word is full of happiness and luck
 My mother tongue is a real monument from centuries

This language is a legacy of Shiroq, Tomaris Navoi-u, the honor done by the Baburshahs
 Every tyrant who came to the country was oppressed

Our mother tongue inherited from history

He was instilled with God from a young age
 May my soul come out the day I put it on my tongue

Humiliated in the shackles of the Soviets
 My mother tongue, which has endured insults

Those who praised became enemies of the people
 My heart is crushed when I remember
 The foreigners chased them to Siberia
 My mother tongue got cold in the cold

Without him, the Uzbek name does not exist in the world
 The hearth of the world goes out to Chin Uzbek
 Shoot like a country's child shoots his mother
 When he puts a foreign language above it

Oripov's one sentence is unforgettable
 "If you don't exist, I'm a parrot too"
 But the Uzbek people will never be a parrot

Uzbek country will never forget you

New era new highs today
 The motherland became my whole heart
 This is an opportunity to grow and develop
 The foundation of development is the mother tongue

Our president's attention is drawn to you
 Give your best wishes and love
 Don't forget your definition is more than that
 Long live mother nation and country

You gave joy and grace to my people for many centuries
 You give off a wonderful fragrance, my flower that does not fade
 Poet Nur Fayz classified your description
 I have a people and you are my mother tongue

Sirojov Nur Fayz Sahibovich

I was born in 2008 in Vobkent district of Bukhara region. Currently, I am a student of the 11th grade of the 39th general secondary school. My first creative work started when I was 9 years old by appearing in district newspapers. In 2022, I won the proud 3rd place and 1000000 words in the contest "The best poem in praise of Vobkent" organized by the Vobkent district administration. In 2024, I am the winner and 3rd place winner of the regional stage of the contest "the most active reader" held by BVBK, "Consumer Rights" contests and the 3rd place. At the same time, I am a member of young leaders and several creative clubs. , I am an activist of communities such as young people and intellectual leaders. My first book was published by "Justfiction edition" in England under the name "I am a peaceful child" and was sold on websites and in English cities.

My Heart Became A Stone



When my dreams are flying
 When my sufferings are raging
 When my eyes are startled
 My heart became a stone.

I missed Dost too
 I also lost my confidence

Who to lean on now
 My heart became a stone.

I wandered around the world
 I wrote poems with my imagination flying
 Turning away when friends leave
 My heart became a stone.

It is full of unfaithful world
 Seeing the pain and suffering
 Breaking the castle of patience
 My heart became a stone.

I was suffering from the worlds
 From fake courtesy
 I'm tired of dreams
 My heart became a stone.

Author: Pulatova Nodira Ilhomiddin qizi .

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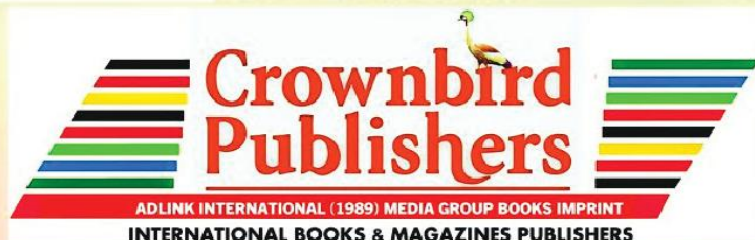
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Beyond the Headlines: A Deep Dive into Kenya's Economic Struggle



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themkenyentimes



Kenya is currently grappling with a multifaceted economic crisis that has sent shockwaves through various sectors of its economy, affecting both urban and rural populations alike. The roots of this crisis can be traced back to a confluence of factors, including global economic headwinds, domestic policy challenges, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, which have collectively conspired to undermine the nation's economic stability and growth prospects. According to the World Bank, Kenya's GDP growth rate decelerated from 7.5% in 2021 to 4.8% in 2022, signaling a significant slowdown in economic activity and highlighting the severity of the challenges facing the country. This economic downturn has been accompanied by rising inflation, which reached a peak of 9.2% in September 2022, eroding the purchasing power of Kenyan citizens and exacerbating income inequality. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics reports that the cost of basic commodities, including food and fuel, has surged dramatically, with food inflation hitting 15.3% in December 2022, placing immense pressure on household budgets and threatening food security for vulnerable populations. The economic crisis has also manifested in a weakening Kenyan shilling, which has depreciated by over 20% against the US dollar in the past year, further amplifying inflationary pressures and increasing the cost of imports.

The agricultural sector, long considered the backbone of Kenya's economy, has been particularly hard hit by the ongoing economic crisis, with farmers facing a perfect storm of challenges that threaten their livelihoods and the country's food security. Erratic weather patterns, attributed to climate change, have led to prolonged droughts in some regions and floods in others, decimating crop yields and livestock herds. The Kenya Food Security Steering Group estimates that as of 2023, approximately 4.4 million Kenyans are facing acute food insecurity, with this number projected to rise if the current economic and

climatic trends persist. The crisis in agriculture has been compounded by rising input costs, with the price of fertilizers and pesticides skyrocketing due to global supply chain disruptions and the depreciation of the Kenyan shilling. Small-scale farmers, who account for over 75% of the country's agricultural output, have been disproportionately affected, struggling to access credit and maintain their operations in the face of mounting economic pressures. The ripple effects of the agricultural crisis are being felt throughout the economy, with reduced farm incomes leading to decreased consumer spending and a slowdown in rural economic activity.

The manufacturing sector, a key driver of Kenya's industrialization ambitions, has not been spared from the economic turmoil, facing a myriad of challenges that have stunted its growth and competitiveness. High energy costs, exacerbated by the global energy crisis and Kenya's reliance on imported fuel, have significantly increased production costs for manufacturers, squeezing profit margins and forcing some firms to scale back operations or shut down entirely. The Kenya Association of Manufacturers reports that capacity utilization in the sector has fallen to 66%, down from 75% in 2019, indicating a significant contraction in industrial output. The weakening of the Kenyan shilling has further compounded the woes of manufacturers, making it more expensive to import raw materials and machinery necessary for production. This has led to a decline in manufacturing's contribution to GDP, which stood at 7.2% in 2022, down from 7.9% in 2019, according to data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. The contraction of the manufacturing sector has had knock-on effects on employment, with thousands of jobs lost or at risk, further straining the social fabric and exacerbating unemployment rates.

The tourism industry, historically a major foreign exchange earner for Kenya, has been struggling to recover

from the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, only to face new challenges in the current economic crisis. While international arrivals have shown signs of recovery, reaching 1.48 million in 2022 according to the Tourism Research Institute, this figure remains well below the pre-pandemic peak of 2.05 million recorded in 2019. The depreciation of the Kenyan shilling has made the country more affordable for international tourists, potentially boosting arrivals, but it has also increased operational costs for tourism businesses, many of which rely on imported goods and services. The economic crisis has also affected domestic tourism, with many Kenyans tightening their belts and reducing discretionary spending on travel and leisure activities. This has led to a slowdown in the recovery of the hospitality sector, with hotel occupancy rates and revenues remaining below pre-pandemic levels. The prolonged downturn in tourism has had far-reaching consequences for the many Kenyans employed in the sector, as well as for the numerous small businesses that depend on tourist traffic for their survival.

The financial sector, a crucial pillar of Kenya's economy and a source of pride for its innovation in mobile banking and financial inclusion, is showing signs of strain amidst the economic crisis. Non-performing loans (NPLs) have risen significantly, with the Central Bank of Kenya reporting an NPL ratio of 14.2% in December 2022, up from 12.3% a year earlier, indicating increasing financial distress among borrowers. This rise in bad loans has made banks more cautious in their lending practices, potentially constraining credit access for businesses and individuals at a time when financial support is most needed. The high interest rate environment, with the Central Bank Rate standing at 10.5% as of July 2023, while aimed at curbing inflation and stabilizing the currency, has made borrowing more expensive, further dampening economic activity. The mobile money sector, while remaining robust, has seen a slowdown in transaction growth as consumers grapple with reduced disposable incomes. The economic crisis has also exposed vulnerabilities in Kenya's pension system, with many retirement funds struggling to generate adequate returns in the face of market volatility and inflationary pressures.

The real estate sector, once a booming segment of Kenya's economy, has not been immune to the economic

headwinds, experiencing a significant cooling off period that has left developers and investors grappling with uncertainty. The Kenya Bankers Association House Price Index shows a marginal increase of 0.9% in house prices for the first quarter of 2023, indicating a stagnation in the property market. This slowdown can be attributed to several factors, including reduced purchasing power among potential homebuyers, tighter lending conditions imposed by financial institutions, and an oversupply of high-end properties in urban centers like Nairobi. The construction industry, closely tied to real estate, has also felt the pinch, with the value of building plans approved in Nairobi County declining by 15.3% in 2022 compared to the previous year, according to the Economic Survey 2023. This slowdown in construction activity has had ripple effects on employment and demand for construction materials, further contributing to the overall economic malaise. The affordable housing segment, a key pillar of the government's development agenda, has faced challenges in implementation due to funding constraints and the overall economic environment, potentially exacerbating the housing deficit and urban planning challenges.

The energy sector, crucial for powering Kenya's economic growth and industrial development, is facing its own set of challenges amid the economic crisis. The country's heavy reliance on hydroelectric power has been tested by recurrent droughts, leading to increased dependence on more expensive thermal power generation. This shift has contributed to higher electricity costs for consumers and businesses alike, with the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority reporting an 18.6% increase in electricity prices in 2023. The volatility in global oil prices has also had a significant impact on Kenya's energy landscape, given the country's reliance on imported petroleum products. The depreciation of the Kenyan shilling has further amplified the cost of energy imports, putting additional strain on the country's foreign exchange reserves and contributing to inflationary pressures. While Kenya has made strides in renewable energy development, with projects like the Lake Turkana Wind Power plant contributing to the national grid, the pace of transition to cleaner energy sources has been hampered by the economic

Worth Noting:

- The manufacturing sector, a key driver of Kenya's industrialization ambitions, has not been spared from the economic turmoil, facing a myriad of challenges that have stunted its growth and competitiveness.
- High energy costs, exacerbated by the global energy crisis and Kenya's reliance on imported fuel, have significantly increased production costs for manufacturers, squeezing profit margins and forcing some firms to scale back operations or shut down entirely.
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Malindi Phase 7	MALINDI	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.129,000	Kithimani Springs	MACHAKOS	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.1.50M
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Wema Gardens	NARO MORU	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.439,000	Vuyanzi Gardens	KITALE	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.1.995M
Love Gardens	KAJIADO	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.950,000	Achievers Paradise Phase 2	NGONG	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.1.995M
Ushindi Gardens	NAKURU	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.1.095M	Achievers Business Park	NGONG	FROM AS LOW AS Kes.3.95M
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Beyond the Headlines: A Deep Dive into Kenya's Economic Struggle



By: Odhiambo Jerameel Kevins Owuor
@themkenyentimes

Contd from page 16



Worth Noting:

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crisis, potentially delaying the country's sustainable development goals.

The transportation and logistics sector, vital for facilitating trade and economic activity, has been significantly impacted by the economic crisis, facing a complex set of challenges that have disrupted operations and increased costs. The depreciation of the Kenyan shilling has led to higher fuel prices, with the Energy and Petroleum Regulatory Authority reporting a 22% increase in diesel prices between June 2022 and June 2023. This surge in fuel costs has had a cascading effect on transportation expenses, driving up the cost of goods and services across the economy. The port of Mombasa, a crucial gateway for East African trade, has experienced a slowdown in cargo throughput, with the Kenya Ports Authority reporting a 1.9% decrease in cargo handled in 2022 compared to the previous year. This decline in port activity reflects the broader economic challenges facing the region, including reduced consumer demand and disruptions in global supply chains. The economic crisis has also affected the aviation sector, with domestic and regional carriers struggling to maintain profitability in the face of rising operational costs and fluctuating passenger numbers.

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector, long considered a bright spot in Kenya's economy and a driver of innovation, has shown resilience in the face of the economic crisis but is not entirely immune to its effects. While the demand for digital services has remained robust, particularly in areas such as e-commerce, mobile banking, and remote work solutions, the sector faces challenges related to the increased cost of imported hardware and software due to currency depreciation. The Communications Authority of Kenya reports that mobile subscriptions have continued to grow, reaching 67.4 million in March 2023,

indicating the sustained importance of digital connectivity. However, the economic crisis has put pressure on consumer spending, potentially affecting the uptake of new technologies and services. The start-up ecosystem, a vibrant component of Kenya's tech scene, has faced headwinds in securing funding, with the Africa: The Big Deal report noting a 35% year-on-year decline in venture capital investments in Kenyan start-ups in the first half of 2023. This funding crunch could potentially slow the pace of innovation and job creation in the tech sector, which has been a key source of employment for Kenya's youth.

The education sector, crucial for human capital development and long-term economic growth, has been grappling with the fallout from the economic crisis, facing challenges that threaten to widen existing inequalities and compromise the quality of learning outcomes. Budget constraints have led to reduced funding for public education, with the Economic Survey 2023 reporting a 5.2% decrease in government expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP in the 2021/2022 fiscal year. This reduction in funding has strained resources for schools, affecting everything from teacher salaries to the provision of learning materials. The economic crisis has also impacted households' ability to afford education, with reports of increased dropout rates, particularly in secondary and tertiary education. The Kenya National Bureau of Statistics estimates that the number of students enrolled in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions decreased by 4.7% in 2022, potentially compromising the development of crucial skills needed for economic recovery and growth. The shift towards digital learning, accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic, has been hampered by the economic crisis, with many students lacking ac-

cess to necessary devices and internet connectivity, further exacerbating educational disparities.

The healthcare sector, already under pressure from the COVID-19 pandemic, continues to face significant challenges amidst the ongoing economic crisis, with implications for public health and the overall well-being of the Kenyan population. The depreciation of the Kenyan shilling has led to increased costs for imported medical equipment, pharmaceuticals, and supplies, straining healthcare budgets and potentially compromising the quality and accessibility of medical services. The Ministry of Health reports that out-of-pocket healthcare expenditure has risen by 12% in 2022, placing a heavier financial burden on households already struggling with the economic downturn. The economic crisis has also affected the implementation of key health initiatives, including the rollout of Universal Health Coverage, with budget constraints limiting the expansion of healthcare infrastructure and services. Mental health issues have seen a concerning rise, with the National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA) reporting a 25% increase in cases of substance abuse and addiction in 2022, potentially linked to the economic stress and uncertainty facing many Kenyans. The healthcare workforce has also been impacted, with reports of brain drain as medical professionals seek better opportunities abroad, further straining an already stretched healthcare system.

The environmental sector, often overlooked in times of economic crisis, is facing critical challenges that intersect with Kenya's economic woes, potentially compromising the country's long-term sustainability and resilience. The economic pressure to exploit natural resources for short-term gains has intensified, with the National Environment Man-

agement Authority reporting a 15% increase in applications for environmental impact assessments related to extractive industries in 2022. This trend raises concerns about the long-term environmental consequences and the sustainability of Kenya's development path. Climate change continues to exert a significant influence on the country's economic prospects, with the Global Climate Risk Index 2021 ranking Kenya 25th among the countries most affected by extreme weather events. The economic crisis has strained resources available for climate adaptation and mitigation efforts, potentially leaving the country more vulnerable to future climate shocks. Deforestation remains a pressing issue, with the Kenya Forest Service reporting a 2.3% decrease in forest cover between 2020 and 2022, driven in part by economic pressures on rural communities. The intersection of environmental degradation and economic hardship poses significant challenges for Kenya's future, requiring a delicate balance between immediate economic needs and long-term environmental sustainability.

In conclusion, the economic crisis gripping Kenya is a complex and multifaceted phenomenon that has permeated virtually every sector of the economy, presenting policymakers, businesses, and citizens with unprecedented challenges. The interplay of global economic headwinds, domestic policy decisions, and external shocks has created a perfect storm that threatens to undermine years of economic progress and social development. As Kenya navigates these turbulent waters, the resilience and innovativeness that have long characterized its people and institutions will be put to the test. The path to economic recovery and renewed growth will require a concerted effort from all stakeholders, innovative policy solutions, and a commitment to inclusive and sustainable development practices. While the current situation presents formidable obstacles, it also offers an opportunity for Kenya to reassess its economic priorities, strengthen its institutions, and build a more resilient and diversified economy that can better withstand future shocks. The coming months and years will be crucial in determining whether Kenya can successfully navigate this crisis and emerge stronger, setting the stage for a new era of economic prosperity and social progress.

The writer is a legal scrivener and researcher

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Letter To Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua

I commend your unwavering commitment to the fight against drug and alcohol abuse in Kenya. Your call for a united front, particularly your appeal to religious organizations for support in rehabilitation efforts, is crucial.

As you continue this vital work, I urge you to maintain pressure on government officials who undermine these initiatives by issuing licenses for harmful alcoholic beverages. The health and future of our youth depend on your leadership. Let us ensure that this fight remains a top priority, safeguarding our communities from the poison of illicit substances.

The Urgency of the Fight

The statistics surrounding alcohol and drug abuse in Kenya are alarming. According to the National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA), one in five

families is affected by alcohol-related issues, leading to severe health and social problems. This crisis not only affects individuals but also erodes the fabric of our communities, leading to broken families and lost potential. Your leadership in this fight is not just commendable; it is essential for the future of our nation.

Collaborative Efforts

Your call for collaboration with religious organizations is a strategic move. The Church has a unique role in mentoring and counseling those struggling with addiction. By partnering with these institutions, we can create a robust support system that not only rehabilitates but also prevents future substance abuse. This holistic approach can help restore hope and purpose to many lives.

Accountability and Enforcement

Your commitment to holding officials accountable for undermining this fight is vital. The recent measures to close illegal liquor joints and enforce stricter regulations are steps in the right direction. However, continued vigilance is necessary. The reopening of illegal bars and the issuance of licenses for harmful beverages must be met with zero tolerance. As you stated, "Nobody will be allowed to sell poison in the name of alcohol." This strong stance must resonate throughout all levels of government.

Education and Awareness

In addition to enforcement, education plays a crucial role in combating substance abuse. Awareness campaigns targeting young people can significantly reduce the allure of drugs and alcohol. Sharing personal stories, like

your own journey with addiction, can resonate deeply with the youth, illustrating the real consequences of substance abuse. Engaging schools and universities in these discussions can empower young people to make informed choices.

A Call to Action

As you continue this fight, I encourage you to engage with various stakeholders, including community leaders, educators, and health professionals. Together, we can develop comprehensive strategies to address this issue. The government must also consider revising the Alcoholic Drinks Control Act to tighten regulations on the manufacture and sale of alcohol. Transferring licensing powers to the National Authority for the Campaign Against Alcohol and Drug Abuse (NACADA) could help ensure that public health

takes precedence over revenue generation.

Conclusion

Your leadership and determination in combating drug and alcohol abuse are commendable and necessary for the well-being of our nation. The fight against this menace requires a collective effort, and I stand with you in advocating for a healthier, more productive future for all Kenyans. Let us continue to prioritize this fight, safeguarding our communities from the devastating effects of substance abuse.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication student at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology kakamega.

IPOA's Independence Is Vital For Ensuring Accountability And Transparency In Policing

Its actions during the protests, such as launching investigations into allegations of excessive force and appealing to the public to report misconduct, demonstrate its commitment to upholding the rule of law and protecting human rights. IPOA's ability to investigate complaints independently ensures that police officers are held accountable for their actions, which is crucial for maintaining public trust and confidence in the police. IPOA's transparency in its operations allows the public to monitor and evaluate the performance of the police, fostering trust and reducing the

likelihood of police misconduct.

As Kenya continues to navigate challenges in policing, IPOA's role in ensuring accountability and transparency will remain crucial in maintaining public trust and promoting a more effective and professional police service. IPOA's independence ensures that human rights are protected by providing a mechanism for investigating and addressing police misconduct, including allegations of excessive force, arbitrary arrests, and other human rights violations. IPOA's commitment to continuing monitoring operations until the con-

clusion of the demonstrations ensures that the police are held accountable for their actions throughout the duration of the protests. Kenya's journey towards world-class policing that is characterized by a transformed, citizen-driven police service is a long road, but IPOA's independence and actions during the protests have demonstrated its vital role in this process.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication student at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology kakamega.



Let's Give President Ruto Time

The ongoing demonstrations by Gen Z in Kenya represent a pivotal moment in the nation's political landscape, reflecting a deep-seated desire for accountability and reform. While the protests have successfully pressured President William Ruto to withdraw the controversial Finance Bill and implement austerity measures, it is crucial for the youth to consider the broader implications of their actions. As the protests gain traction, they

serve as a powerful reminder of the youth's potential to shape governance. However, continued demonstrations may risk alienating the very leaders who are beginning to listen. Ruto's recent engagement with Gen Z via social media indicates a willingness to address their concerns, suggesting that dialogue could yield more fruitful outcomes than unrest.

Moreover, the protests have led to tragic consequences, including loss of life and property damage. The call

for patience is not a plea for complacency but an appeal for strategic engagement. By allowing Ruto the time to implement his reforms, the youth can maintain the momentum of their movement while fostering a constructive relationship with the government.

In light of this, it is essential for fellow youths to pause and reflect on the potential for collaboration. By stepping back from the streets, they can create space for meaningful di-

alogue, ensuring their voices are not only heard but also respected. This approach could lead to sustainable change, aligning the government's actions with the aspirations of a new generation.

Ultimately, the future of Kenya rests on the ability of its youth to navigate this delicate balance between protest and partnership. By choosing to engage rather than confront, they can help shape a political environment that genuinely reflects their needs

and desires.

James Kilonzo Bwire is a Media and communication student from Masinde muliro university of science and technology kakamega.

Bridging The Financial Gap In Kenya’s Urban Sanitation Sector Through Results-Based Financing



By: Cynthia Masibo
@themtkenyatimes

Fresh Life, a leading service provider of urban non-sewered sanitation has launched a new Results-Based Financing (RBF) mechanism to improve sanitation access in Nairobi’s urban informal settlements.

This initiative aims to enhance the delivery of sanitation services in a city where over 60 per cent of the population live in underserved areas lacking adequate sewer systems.

The Water and Sanitation Sector in Kenya has faced persistent challenges, including inadequate infrastructure, limited financing, and insufficient maintenance of existing facilities. According to the National Water and Sanitation Investment Plan (NAWASIP 2023-2030), the sector needs Kshs. 1 trillion to achieve universal coverage and attain

Sustainable Development Goal 6 by 2030. However, there is a KSh652 billion financing gap, with a deficit of KSh365 billion specifically for urban sanitation.

To address this gap, leveraging public-private partnerships and blended financing mechanisms is essential to attract private and commercial investments. Fresh Life’s introduction of Results-Based Financing (RBF) for urban non-sewered sanitation marks a significant step towards bridging this gap. RBF is an innovative approach linking financial support directly to the achievement of measurable results, thereby boosting investor confidence and incentivizing service providers to deliver tangible, impactful results.

Fresh Life is a leading provider of urban non-sewered sanitation in rapidly growing cities. They have established one of the largest networks of container-based sanitation in Nairobi, Kisumu, Eldoret, and Lusaka, serving over 260,000 people with daily access to safely managed sanitation services. According to the WASREB Impact Report Issue No. 16, safe sanitation coverage in Kenya stands at only 29 per cent.

With seven years remaining until the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals deadline, Kenya faces a significant challenge to alter its current trajectory and achieve universal coverage, aiming for 40 per cent sewer and 60 per cent non-sewered coverage by 2030.

Fresh Life has a proven track record of delivering over 7,500 container-based toilets and waste management services as a not-for-profit enterprise reliant on grant funding. The new RBF mechanism will set the precedent for future paid service contracts between the government and Fresh Life, enabling further scale and sustainability. The predefined results for Fresh Life’s RBF model include the number of container-based toilets added to the Nairobi network, the total number of operational toilets, and the number of barrels of pit latrine waste received at Fresh Life’s Mtaa Fresh stations. These three metrics ensure service provision and sustainability while safely removing waste from low-income communities.

The RBF mechanism will be funded by Grand Challenges Canada (GCC) and the Osprey Foundation. Speaking during the launch, Lindsay Stradley,



Lindsay Stradley, Co-Founder and Executive Director of Fresh Life, addressing various stakeholders at the launch

Co-Founder and Executive Director of Fresh Life, noted, “The launch of the Results-Based Financing initiative marks a new era for the urban sanitation sector in Kenya. This mechanism represents a significant step towards achieving universal access to improved sanitation. By focusing on results, we can ensure that every shilling spent translates into real, measurable improvements in public health and quality of life.”

Festus Mutuku, Superintendent Senior Water Engineering at the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, emphasized the government’s role in creating an enabling environment for the private sector and implementing partners. He stated, “The Ministry has been at work, strengthening co-ordination at the national and county level and with non-state actors to enhance urban sanitation.”

Nakuru County Explores Solutions To State Corporations’ Debt Burden

By: Suleiman Mbatiah
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The County Government of Nakuru is negotiating with various state corporations to settle debts amounting to billions of shillings owed to the devolved unit.

Governor Susan Kihika stated that her administration faces development challenges due to a lack of funds caused by the nonpayment of over Ksh 7 billion in land and property rates.

During a Senate committee session, Governor Kihika highlighted that Kenya Railways Corporation owes Nakuru County KSh4.3 Billion and that the debt situation had reached a stalemate.

“No matter how much we push to have the debt cleared, they don’t appear to pay,” noted the governor while responding to revenue arrears queries by the Senate’s Public Accounts Committee.

She revealed that the corporation claimed to receive little funding from

the exchequer, making it impossible to pay rates and clear the debts it owes governments and suppliers.

Additionally, she added, the corporation established in 1977 asserts that it no longer owns prime properties across the country that used to generate revenue.

The State Department for Urban Development is constructing a modern bus park on the corporation’s land in Ziواني, Nakuru City, to decongest the town and create an efficient transport system.

“Instead of the County paying rent, we are discussing whether Kenya Railways Corporation can discount the fees from the debt,” noted a hopeful governor Kihika.

She added that the County had requested the national railway carrier to allocate a portion or portions of its land in the region for constructing markets and other amenities.

Nyandarua Senator John Methu, and a member of the committee noted that plans are in place to consider rates and debts owed by state corporations during the budget-making process.

Governor Kihika also revealed that



Governor Susan Kihika launching farm machinery to aid in agricultural mechanization..

the embattled Pyrethrum Processing Company of Kenya, formerly the Pyrethrum Board of Kenya, owes the County Government of Nakuru KSh17.6 million.

“We are in discussions to see if we can use the company’s idle land,

which is at risk of being grabbed, for use by youth and women groups to propagate pyrethrum seedlings for the County,” she stated.

Other entities indebted to the County include the Kenya Wildlife Service, with Ksh 3.76 billion, Keroche

Breweries Limited, which owes Nai-vasha Water and Sanitation Company Ksh11 million, the Catholic Diocese of Nakuru, owing KSh4 million, and the Kenya Farmers Association, with a debt of KSh2 million.

Fridah Murage Becomes The First Student At Gichugu Technical And Vocational College

By: Raymond Wanjohi
@themtkenyatimes



Gichugu Technical and Vocational College Principal Joseph Kimemia.

Worth Noting:

- Murage, who hails from the village, has enrolled for Cosmetology course, joined by hundreds of other students who are yearning to nature their academic careers.
- “I am greatly happy to be the first student to enroll into this great institution. I have stayed at home for for six years, but I believe it is never too late to embark on my journey towards excellence,” she said.
- “This is a unique TVT in Gichugu and I believe more learners will enroll. I want to motivate my fellow youths to join this facility and upgrade their skills,” she added.
- As the country celebrates 100 years since the inception of TVET institutions, residents of Kiambatha village prides themselves of having a new facility which they term as their ‘newborn’.

For six years, Fridah Murage has not had a chance to advance her education career since she sat for her Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) and scored a mean grade of C plain. Murage is now the first student to enroll at Gichugu Technical and Vocational College, a new ultramodern institution that has been constructed by the Ministry of Education through the State department for Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET). The college is located at Kiambatha village in Gichugu Constituency, Kirinyaga County, at the slopes of Mt Kenya. Murage, who hails from the village, has enrolled for Cosmetology course, joined by hundreds of other students who are yearning to nature their academic careers. “I am greatly happy to be the first student to enroll into this great institution. I have stayed at home for for six years, but I believe it is never too late to embark on my journey towards excellence,” she said. “This is a unique TVT in Gichugu and I believe more learners will enroll. I want to motivate my fellow youths to join this facility and upgrade their skills,” she added. As the country celebrates 100 years since the inception of TVET institutions, residents of Kiambatha village prides themselves of having a new facility which they term as their ‘newborn’. The college is a product of the national government’s efforts in entrenching and improving the quality of TVET institutions at the grass-roots. Currently, registration of learners is ongoing at the institution, and it is expected to open its doors on August 19, 2024. President William Ruto will in September officially open the facility so

as to empower youth to contribute to nation building. The institution is expected to not only transform the remote village but also earmark the region as the center for mechanical engineering training. Once it takes off, the facility will receive part of the 4,840 trainers who have been reskilled by the State department for TVET on the new Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) program. According to the college’s principal Joseph Kimemia, the government has so far allocated Sh100 million to purchase learning equipment. “This mega institution will not only transform this village but the entire Central Kenya region because it is one of the colleges earmarked by the government to be centers of mechanical engineering training in the country,” the principal said. Kimemia said he has so far registered over 400 trainees for various courses and anticipates absorbing 1,000 students once it is officially opened by the Head of State. He said that the institution will continue registering learners and attain its capacity of 3,000 progressively. Kimemia said President Ruto’s administration is keen on transforming this country by ensuring that every constituency gets at TVET institution. “We have over the years tried to convince our young people to let go of the belief injected to them by their forefathers that TVET learning was meant for failures. We are at a moment where TVET learning is no longer an option but a choice. Under the technical training program, we no longer discuss grades but what individual students can do,” Kimemia said. The principal, jointly with the office of area MP Robert Gichumu, has been sensitizing the community on

the need to take up technical courses so as to spur economic growth of the region. “This college, in partnership with the NG-CDF, has invited banking institutions to enlighten our new learners on how to apply for HELB as well as how to manage their resources throughout their career. We are the foot soldiers of the government, and we commit ourselves towards delivering our best,” Kimemia said. “TVET is celebrating 100 years. We are happy that we have been born. Though we are the last TVET to be opened in this county, we will emerge giants and scale great heights,” he added. Gichugu NG-CDF board chairman Geoffrey Kariuki said they injected Sh12 million towards construction of the institution, adding that more resources will be allocated towards ensuring its smooth running. “The office of MP will support the students with bursary funds as well as encouraging investors to set up high rise rental and hostel facilities for the learners. We know that banking institutions will also set base at this village and that is why, as a government, we are there to create that conducive environment for investment,” Kariuki said. Area resident Rose Thiguku said they have started portioning their pieces of land so as to construct residential houses that will host students and staff who will join the new college. “We are determined to uproot our tea and coffee plantations so as to construct hostels and rental houses for our children and trainers. We have waited for this institution for many years. We are glad because our talented youths will get the opportunity of exploring them and amassing more knowledge,” said Thiguku. Sarah Njoki, another resident, said

the college will also contribute to the growth of the economy in the remote village and create wealth. “We are grateful because this college will transform our lifestyle positively. When we were giving out this piece of land to the government, we were optimistic that our local youths would one day join their counterparts who have been playing a critical role in building this country after completing their training,” Njoki said. Already, investors have started purchasing land to build rental houses and hostels for the anticipated rise in population. In March this year, President Ruto announced that his administration had received Sh13 billion funding from the Chinese government to install ultra-modern learning equipment in TVETs institutions country-wide. He said the funding would equip 70 TVET institutions, adding that they will be crucial in improving the quality of skills transfer. The Head of State also disclosed that the Italian government had committed to equip 40 additional institutions countrywide. “We are in the process of equipping 70 TVET institutions with the state-of-the art equipment, in partnership with the government of China. The funding of Sh13 billion was approved this morning,” President Ruto said at the Nyeri National Polytechnic where he lit the flame to mark 100 years since the inception of TVET institutions in the country. “Another 40 institutions will be equipped by the government of Italy to improve the quality of learning and the skills transferred to the young people,” he said. Currently, Kenya has 223 technical training institutions and 24 national polytechnics. The President announced that the government is recruiting 2,000 additional tutors and that they intend to increase the number to over 4,000. He said that his government, through the ministry of education, has overhauled the curriculum assessment model in TVETs and aligned it to the Constitution. “We resolved that we needed a different assessment tool for our TVET institutions. Many students used to fail exams in TVET institutions because they are poor in English language. For instance, when you are a mason, you don’t need to be perfect in English. If education is the key, then TVET is the master key,” President Ruto said.

Sports >> *Kenya Sevens co-captain and two-time Olympian Vincent Onyala believes organizers of the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games

Onyala: Los Angeles Will Have A Hard Time Matching Paris Olympics Opening Ceremony



Kenya 7s co-captain Vincent Onyala in action against Australia in Shujaa's second Pool B match at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. Photo/NOC-K/KELLY AYODI.

Kenya Sevens co-captain and two-time Olympian Vincent Onyala believes organizers of the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic Games have an uphill task to match what Paris showcased during Friday's Opening Ceremony along the Seine River. "The beauty of the Paris 2024 Olympics is Friday's Opening Ceremony. Whoever did that need to be taken care of for the next Olympics," Onayala, who was at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics told Capital Sport after their last Paris Olympics match against Samoa. The 27-year-old , who is the most experienced player in the team, narrated the dreamlike moment of sailing down the Seine River; saying: "It was an experience of a lifetime and the boys really enjoyed it." Paris enjoyed its first Olympics in a century with a rain-soaked, picturesque opening ceremony laden with stars and fantasy

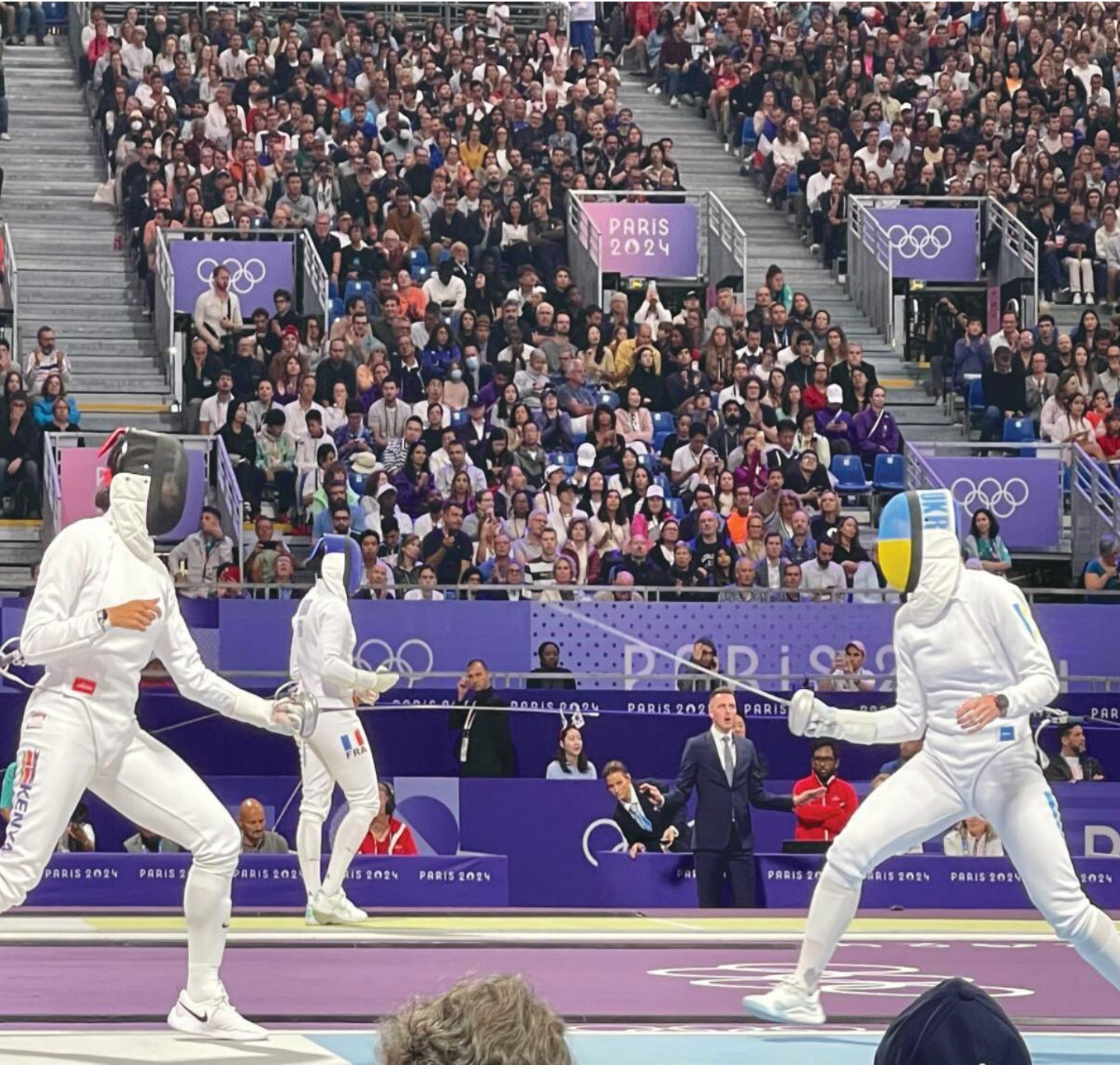
along the Seine. "Players were coming to the village and no one wanted to shut up; like who will listen to the other because there were chants all around how unique the experience was," said Onyala adding: "At the end of the day, those are the things we picked. France was lit." Comparing his Olympic participation in Tokyo and Paris, Onyala says he is pretty disappointed. "I am disappointed with this one because, personally, I expected 8th position as the very least to come out of this Olympics. At the end of the day, it's rugby, its sevens, the coin flips on the other side and we are on the other end," he recounted. Onyala believes there is a need to impart the experience and bring the boys up to speed. "Now that they (team) have learnt what it takes to be at the Olympics; it's a learning curve that they have taken. They need

to adjust because the rugby sevens calendar is a quick turnaround. In the next few months, we will be starting the World Series. The same teams we played are probably the same teams we will face at the World Series; we just need to take it a game at a time and see how it goes," Onyala, who features for KCB Rugby Club explained. Onyala is also grateful to fans who have always supported the team. "Our fans love rugby and I really appreciate them because they are all over us and they give us constant support." Born on 10 December 1996, Onyala competed in the men's tournament at the Tokyo 2020 Summer Olympics. He was named the most valuable player of the 2019 Kenya National Sevens Circuit. He also represented Kenya at the 2022 Rugby World Cup Sevens in Cape Town. VINCENT ONYALA FACT

FILE VINCENT ONYALA – Co-Captain AGE: 27 CLUB: KCB Rugby Club POSITION: Center/forward HOME TOWN: Ugunja HOBBIES: Cooking/watching/ listening to philosophical podcasts FAVOURITE FOOD: Goat meat OCCUPATION: Student/business person/athlete ROLE MODEL: Andrew Amonde HIGH SCHOOL: Ruaraka High School UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE: The Catholic University of East Africa -Alex Isaboke is reporting from Paris, France- Capital Sport

Sports >>> *Kenyan Fencer Alexandra Ndolo lost by a slim margin of one point, bowing out at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games after losing 12-13 to Olena Kryvytska of Ukraine in the round of 32.

Sudden Death Kocks Out Kenyan Fencer Alexandra Ndolo At Paris 2024 Olympics



Kenyan Fencer Alexandra Ndolo lost by a slim margin of one point, bowing out at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games after losing 12-13 to Olena Kryvytska of Ukraine in the round of 32.

Alexandra had been given a bye in the round of 64 and was hopeful to progress into the medal bracket to hand Kenya its first ever in the women’s Epee Fencing category.

The competition was so tight,

seeing both athletes go toe-to-toe and being separated by a point in each touch of play in the three rounds.

“I lost by one touch. I gave my best because sudden death can go either way. I wish I could progress to the next round, since I was determined to give Kenya a medal, but I am sorry it did not go my way,” Alexandra told Capital Sport after the competition.

She added, “The level of competition here is very high. She (Olena) won silver at the world championships, I won silver as well, so it was anyones’ game.”

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There Is Heaven In Our House



By: Salahiddinjon Sayfiyev
@themtkenyatimes

Worth Noting:

- A teacher's first lesson. The next lesson gave the students the task to bring "Paradise soil". Most of the children were surprised, then the bell rang and the children left. The next day the class started, most of the children came with textbooks. Birr Boy brought soil together with textbooks. Seeing this, the children and the teacher were surprised.
- The lesson has started. The teacher asked: Who did the homework? Many are sitting quietly. Then the boy who brought the soil said I did it. He said, "Bring the soil of Paradise." Where did you get this soil? After all, the earth is filled with the soil of Heaven. Everyone is quiet. The boy said: Teacher, I brought the dirt of my mother's footprints.



A mother is kind, patient, pure in heart, patient and kind, passionate, skillful, the charm of our home, the key to our paradise is embodied before our eyes. Dear Mother! No matter when you look at it, together with my father, every minute is precious to us. If any part of us hurts, the people who hurt more than us are our parents. How much do we feel it when it happens? Mom, look, what's going through your head? Because of our three sons. It is fitting that he slandered you (us). Is your heart so clean and pure? Thank you for going, Mother. Although I don't always tell you that I love you, you are the main role in my poems and stories. A teacher's first lesson. The next lesson gave the students the task to bring "Paradise soil". Most of the children were surprised, then the bell rang and the children left. The next day the class started, most of the children came with textbooks. Bir Boy brought soil together with textbooks. Seeing this, the children and the

teacher were surprised. The lesson has started. The teacher asked: Who did the homework? Many are sitting quietly. Then the boy who brought the soil said I did it. He said, "Bring the soil of Paradise." Where did you get this soil? After all, the earth is filled with the soil of Heaven. Everyone is quiet. The boy said: Teacher, I brought the dirt of my mother's footprints. After all, isn't the soil that my mother stepped on the foot of Heaven? Then everyone had tears in their eyes. It is not for nothing that our wise people say that "Paradise is under the feet of mothers". As a young man from a remote village, I came to the capital for the first time together with my teacher Barno Mirzayeva. Feruza Adilova, the editor-in-chief of the newspaper "Tong syzni" personally welcomed us. For me, this is pride and pride. Years later, I told the teacher to himself, did you meet us yourself? This was the teacher's answer. After all, I am also a Mother. Every time I come to the capital, I go

to my teacher, who has become kind like my mother.

Barno Mirzayeva is also kind, passionate and demanding like my mother. We will also have a pleasant conversation with the teacher, and when the time comes, we will share secrets and talk to each other.

My dear, dear Son, my mother! We, your children, your beloved husband Sirojiddin, wait until the world comes to an end. I prepared salads for weddings, made blankets, cut and sewed them, and for the winter "Coat" that my grandfather brought me, I earned a living by driving a taxi, a suit-trousers, a white shirt, a tie, etc. Insha'Allah grant you a ticket for Hajj and a crown of honor in Jannat in return for the things you have brought, so that my child does not lack.

May all our mothers always be healthy. Dear mothers and sisters, I sincerely congratulate you on the coming holidays. I will always open like a spring and pray that the smile

will not disappear from your faces.

He made mean, slanderous slanders, Maybe he ate pand and regretted it. A grandchild filled your skirt. Thanks to the truth, the faces became white, Protect yourself for us Mother Three boys, every time you fly.

Beside you, faithful, beloved, One day you will get your due. Faithful Mother, you will go to the Kaaba again, Yoring, three sons will fly. I need you more than the earthly world, Mother, Three boys, every time you fly.

Salahiddinjon Sayfiyev
Alfraganus University
A student of the Uzbek language and literature department of the Faculty of Philology.