

THE KIAMBU REPORT



Quote of the Month

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“GREATNESS IS DEFINED BY THE PROMISES YOU KEEP”



HEALTH

- Wamatangi Care
- Medical workers promotions
- **26** new level three hospitals
- Revival of Thogoto, Bibirioni, Lari, Wangige and Tigoni



- New Karuri and Juja level four hospital
- Assorted medical equipment worth **half a billion** shilling



- Drugs in hospitals
- Ensured availability of drugs in hospitals to a tune of **85 percent** at any given time
- Revamped **15 ambulances**
- Hospitals renovations

EDUCATION

- Completed **247** ECDE centres and **62** procured



- ECDE Feed program
- Increased Bursary Kitty to **500 million**

AGRICULTURE

- Distribution of farm inputs
- Free maize and crop and coffee fertilizer distributed to over **500,000** farmers



- Over **250,000** improved kienyeji chicks to over **50,000** farmers.



- Distribution of dairy equipment worth **25million**

Tracking the governor's manifesto, slightly above two years since he assumed office

Wamatangi's 2 year scorecard



'THE KIAMBU REPORT' SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi has outlined his achievements during his two years in office and highlighted his planned development program for the 2024-2025 financial year, even as he promises accelerated development in his bid to make the county great again.

>>>continued on page 2

WATER

288 kilometers of water piping done across the county



20 boreholes drilled

INFRASTRUCTURE

■ Rehabilitation of roads
Over **1,000** kilometres of roads graded and gravelled.

Reduced the cost of grading, graveling, and compaction of access roads from **Sh6 million** to **Sh400 000**

- Tarmacking
- Started construction of



- **6** bus parks
- Solar street lighting
Started installation of **10,000** solar street lights

MUNICIPALITIES

- Established six new municipalities



- Titling
- Revenue collection
Increased own source revenue by **Sh1.5 billion** in two years
- Trade
16 markets started

SPORTS



Thika Stadium
Thigio in Limuru
Kanjeru in Kabete
Kagwe in Lari
Githunguri Stadium



Githiha Model ECDE Centre in Githiga Ward, Githunguri Sub-County.



Kahawa Sukari Level Three Hospital.



Ongoing County Aggregation and Industrial Part at Warugiu in Ngewa, Githunguri Sub-County.



Thogoto Level Four Hospital in Kikuyu Sub-County.

Wamatangi scorecard in two

>>>continued from page 1

Wamatangi, who took office in August 2022, highlighted his main achievements in health, education, agriculture, water, transport infrastructure, and the enhancement of the county's own source revenue collection. From the construction of 239 new model ECDE centers and feeding programs, the increase of the bursary kitty, a universal health care plan covering 100,000 households, the start of 30 new level four and level three hospitals, and new hospital equipment to the distribution of farm inputs to over

500,000 farmers, the governor believed he is well on course with the implementation of his campaign manifesto.

Further, the administration has rehabilitated over 1,000 kilometers of access roads, started construction of a county aggregation and industrial park in Githunguri, drilled new boreholes, supplied nearly 228 kilometers of assorted pipes and fittings to extend water services across the county, and constructed six new bus packs and markets.

"After establishing a firm foundation in the first year, we are now cruising, and we hope that by the end of the

third year, Kiambu will be a county like no other in terms of development. As I promised, during my swearing-in ceremony at the historic Kirigiti Stadium after the election, I vowed to "Make Kiambu Great Again," and I am proud to see that the work we started immediately has begun to bear fruit," the governor said.

This, he said, was made possible by his prudent financial management, which included reducing waste and theft and raising local revenue from Sh3 billion to roughly Sh4.6 billion so that development could be funded.

"When you heard the onslaughts

against me, it was because I made an unpopular decision with some leaders. No dubious tenders to steal county money. Kiambu officials no longer travel for benchmarking because we elected a tent at the county offices where all meetings are done. Tenders are competitive to ensure they get the best costs. That is how we managed to mobilize money for the not only visible but impactful developments," he said.

He said the county completed 239 new ECDE centers, while another 62 have been tendered for and are expected to be complete by June this year. This brings the total number of the finished

ECDE centre's to 301, and the governor says, the remaining 223, will be completed by June 2026.

They are fully fledged, entire centers, not just classrooms.

Each center includes PP1 and PP2 classrooms with tiles and ceilings, an office, an ablution block for teachers and children, and a well-equipped play area with swings, tunnels, and a sand-pit.

Beyond infrastructure, the county has implemented a comprehensive feeding program to keep children in school and enhance their nutritional standards.



Delivered certified maize seeds and fertilizer to over 8, 000 farmers as well as pond liners to fish farmers in Kijabe Ward, Lari Sub-County.



Manguu Model Ecde Centre, Kiuu Ward.



Governor Kimani Wamatangi inspect the new X-ray and Ultrasound machines at Kihara Level Three Hospital.



The County Government of Kiambu has been providing ECDE learners with nutritious uji daily, three boiled eggs on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. They also enjoy a packet of milk every Thursday.

years of an upward trajectory

Every morning, children receive a nutritious bowl of uji, along with eggs three days a week and a packet of milk on Thursday of every week.

"This initiative has significantly boosted enrollment and attendance, with the number of learners increasing from 32,000 to over 39,000," he said.

The devolved administration has also significantly increased bursary allocation to Sh500 million, benefiting over 100,000 students across all 60 wards. Each student receives between Sh5,000 and Sh10,000.

In the health sector, the county is implementing Wamatangi Care,

a comprehensive free medical cover that caters to outpatient, inpatient, and chronic ailments such as diabetes, cancer, and high blood pressure. In case of death, the bereaved family gets Sh100,000 as the last expense cover.

"My government has renovated various health facilities and initiated the construction of 16 new Level 3 hospitals. Meanwhile, the stalled Level 4 hospitals in Lari, Thogoto, Githunguri, Bibirioni, Wangige, and Tigoni are nearing completion. Additionally, new Level 4 hospitals are being constructed in Juja and Karuri," he said.

The hospitals feature outpatient

and inpatient wings with 16-bed maternity wards, 10-bed general wards, 6-bed pediatric wards, laboratories, and theaters.

The level three facilities already underway are Kiganjo in Kemenu, Thika, Kahawa Sukari, Ndeiya in Limuru, Uthiru, Gathiga in Nyathuna, Kabete, Nden-deru, Kiawaroga in Limuru East, Ndumberi, Gichuru in Sigona, and Kikuyu.

The other sites set for construction are Athena in Thika, Witeithie, and Cianda, where the tenders have already been advertised, while Ndarasha in Theta, Kiamumbi, Gitaru and Mwhiko, land issues are being addressed.

The other sites set for construction are Athena in Thika, Witeithie, and Cianda, where the tenders have already been advertised, while in Ndarasha in Theta, Kiamumbi, and Mwhiko, land issues are being addressed.

Recognising the importance of well-equipped facilities, Governor Wamatangi's administration has invested over Sh 500 million in medical equipment.

From C-T scan, ultrasound, and X-ray machines to dialysis, and endoscopy machines, health facilities that previously lacked essential diagnostic tools are now able to offer a broader range of services, improving the quality of

care available to the people of Kiambu. In the agriculture sector, farmers have received over 250,000 free improved kienyeji chicks, and over 450,000 farmers have been given free certified maize seeds and fertilizer as well as piglets to the youth as part of the county's social economic empowerment programme.

"We regularly monitor our progress to ensure that no department is left behind in serving the people of Kiambu. I am glad we are receiving positive feedback from residents who are witnessing the change we continue to bring about," he said.

Ends....



Governor Wamatangi and his deputy Rosemary Kirika (right) swings children at Gitiha ECDE centre.



Governor Wamatangi and his deputy Rosemary Kirika (right) swings children at Gitiha ECDE centre.



Kiambu Governor Kiamni Wamatangi (in white apron) during the launch of piglets distribution programme in Mangu-Ward, Gatundu North Sub-County .



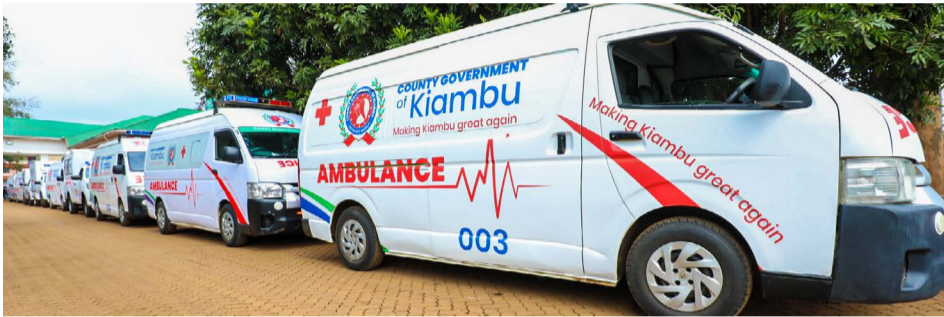
Youth Affairs, Sports and Communication, Ali Osman conducting a ten day training in digital skills, digitakl marketing and entrepreneurship for over 100 participants at Ndumberi Stadium.



The interior of one of the 15 ambulances that were rehabilitated and fully equipped by the County Government of Kiambu.



Juja Lelev Four hospital.



The County Government of Kiambu rehabilitated and fully equipped 15 ambulances.



A newly employed health worker takes a self photo with Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi.

Wamatangi builds six Level 4 hospitals, 26 Level 3 facilities in Kiambu

By **KELVIN KIMARU**

With healthcare provision being one of the major functions of devolution, several interventions by the Kiambu County Government have positioned the devolved unit as a standout among its peers.

Under a massive infrastructural transformation, Governor Kimani Wamatangi's administration has constructed new hospitals across all levels, acquired state-of-the-art equipment and hired additional staff.

Another key aspect of this transformation has been the digitisation of medical services, along with ensuring that all health facilities consistently maintain an 85 percent drug supply capacity.

Dr. Elias Maina, the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Health, stated that over the past two years, the county has made significant strides in reviving a health sector that was previously in a dire state.

He noted that the new administration immediately embarked on renovating all health facilities, reviving stalled projects and initiating new ones to bring healthcare services closer to the people.

In October 2023, Governor Wamatangi launched two transformative programs to improve access to healthcare dubbed Kiambu Afya-Wamatangi Care.

The programs have had a significant impact, enrolling over 100,000 households and offering critical services such as outpatient and inpatient care, chronic disease management, and funeral expense coverage.

Through the initiative, families who lose loved ones receive Sh100,000 in support.

The governor says he is working with the Social Health Authority (SHA) to have beneficiaries of Wamatangi care registered under the defunct National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) to be absorbed into the new programme.

When Governor Wamatangi took office, he inherited six stalled Level 4 hospital projects, including those in



The unfinished facilities represented missed opportunities for healthcare services in underserved areas but the Governor is determined to complete them. Reviving these projects became a priority, and we have made progress to bring each facility to completion," Dr Elias Maina, CECM Health Services

Bibirioni, Lari, Tigoni, Thogoto, Wangige and Githunguri.

Among these, the Thogoto Level 4 hospital had remained incomplete since 2015.

Thanks to the Governor's leadership and strategic direction, these projects are now back on track, with construction progressing steadily to ensure that residents will soon have access to expanded and modernised health facilities.

"In line with the World Health Or-

ganisation's recommendation that no one should have to walk more than five kilometres to access healthcare, we prioritised the construction of 16 new Level 3 hospitals across the county," says the Governor.

He added: "These facilities are designed to include inpatient and outpatient wings, maternity wards with theatres, laboratories and administrative blocks. Some of these hospitals are nearing completion, ensuring that every ward will have a modern healthcare facility.

His administration has also invested in the construction of new Level 4 hospitals in Karuri and Juja, each costing Sh 210 million. These new hospitals will further enhance the county's healthcare infrastructure and improve service delivery for thousands of residents.

Recognising the importance of well-equipped facilities, Governor Wamatangi's administration has invested over Sh 500 million in medical equipment. From ultrasound machines to X-rays, health facilities that previously lacked essential diagnostic tools can now offer a broader range of services, improving the quality of care available to the people of Kiambu.

In addition to building new facilities, Governor Wamatangi has overseen extensive renovations of existing healthcare centres.

Many of the county's facilities, some of which had never been repainted since their construction, have received a fresh facelift, ensuring a more comfortable and hygienic environment for both patients and healthcare workers.

"More than 700 healthcare providers have been promoted, and his administration has advertised for the recruitment of 2,000 new staff members across various cadres. This move is aimed at strengthening the healthcare workforce and ensuring that health services are adequately staffed to meet the growing needs of the population," says the Chief Officer in charge of Health Dr Patrick Nyaga.



Governor Kimani Wamatangi inspect drugs store at Kihara Level Three Hospital.



Ndenderu Level Three Hospital in Ruaka.



Lari Hospital.



Ndumberi level Three hospital.

247 ECDE centres completed with 62 others set to be ready by June



Kanake Model ECDE Centre, Komothai Ward.



Mbariki model ECDE Centre in Nyanduma Ward, Lari sub-county.



Karinga Model ECDE Centre, Ndarugu Ward.



Munyu Model ECDE Centre, Gatuanaya Ward.



Thigio Model ECDE Centre in Ndeiya Ward.



Toilets at Gatono Model ECDE Centre, Cianda Ward.



Kiambu Governor Dr. Kimani Wamatangi (left) assists an ECDE learner in writing her name on an exercise book after the governor launched the distribution of learning materials to all the county's ECDE centers on January 9, 2025, at the county headquarters in Kiambu Town.

The Kiambu Report correspondent

The County Government of Kiambu has completed 247 new Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres. An additional 62 centres, which are already under construction, are expected to be ready by June.

Governor Kimani Wamatangi, who launched the completed facilities late last year, noted that this marks a new beginning for a sector that has long suffered from neglect and lack of support.

Each centre, which rivals private academies, features two modern classrooms—PP1 and PP2—an office for administrative use, separate

ablution blocks for both teachers and learners and a well-equipped play area for children.

“Research consistently underscores the importance of early childhood education, revealing that a positive first impression of school significantly influences a child’s lifelong attitude toward learning. Recognising this, we have prioritized the modernisation of ECDE centres immediately after his election, aiming to ensure that the youngest learners begin their educational journey in an environment that is both nurturing and stimulating,” the Governor said.

He added: “We are constructing new model ECDE centres and renovating existing ones to provide modern facilities akin to those

found in private kindergartens.”

Wamatangi said the third phase of the project was already underway, with 62 ECDE centres under construction, and are expected to be ready by June.

Governor Wamatangi’s commitment extends beyond brick-and-mortar improvements.

He has also implemented a comprehensive feeding program to keep children in school and enhance their learning experience.

Every morning, the children receive a bowl of nutritious uji, complemented by eggs three days a week and a packet of milk. This initiative has significantly boosted attendance, with the number of learners increasing from 32,000 to over 39,000.

County ECDE feeding program boosts pupils' population by 7,000

By Special correspondent

The Kiambu County Government has been implementing a feeding program in all public Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres, dramatically increasing enrolment.

According to Governor Kimani Wamatangi, the comprehensive feeding program, which aims to

keep children in school and improve their nutritional standards, has increased the number of learners from 32,000 to 39,000.

As part of the program, children receive a nutritious bowl of fortified porridge every morning, along with eggs three days a week and a packet of milk every Thursday.

"ECDE plays a critical role in laying a strong foundation for future academic success. Research shows that

the experiences and skills gained during these early years form the bedrock of a child's cognitive, emotional, and social development. That is why we are supporting this sector," says Wamatangi.

The Governor has emphasised that the feeding program is free for all children attending Kiambu ECDE centres.

In support of local women entrepreneurs, the Governor has highlight-

ed that the county government has supplied improved Kienyeji chicks to enable women to become suppliers of eggs to the ECDE centres.

"We have provided women with improved Kienyeji chicks, empowering them to raise chickens and supply eggs to our ECDEs. Some women are already benefiting from this initiative," he says.

To strengthen the feeding program further, the Governor has an-

nounced plans to begin constructing kitchen facilities in January 2025.

"By the 2025/2026 financial year, we plan to have kitchens built across all wards, creating world-class ECDE centres that cater to our young learners' needs," says Wamatangi.

This feeding program complements Governor Wamatangi's administration's infrastructural investments in the ECDE sector.



The County Government of Kiambu has been providing ECDE learners with nutritious uji daily, three boiled eggs on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays. They also enjoy a packet of milk every Thursday.



Kiambu Governor Dr. Kimani Wamatangi at the new Gatono Model ECDE Centre in Cianda Ward, Kiambaa Sub-County during the official opening.



Kiambu Governor Dr. Kimani Wamatangi at the new Kibathi Model ECDE Centre in Karuri Ward, Kiambaa Sub-County during the official opening.

Joy as beneficiaries of the County bursary scheme receive their cheques

By ANN WANJIKU

Needy students returning to school this term have had the luck of benefitting from the County Scholarship programme spearheaded by Governor Kimani Wamatangi.

As one of his key priority areas, Governor Wamatangi

has enhanced the bursary scheme from Sh100 million two years ago to Sh500 million, meaning more beneficiaries and enhanced amounts.

Since the beginning of the term, the Directorate of Vocational Training, Gender and Social Services has been busy processing the cheques

for the beneficiaries of the bursary scheme.

The governor has been involved in distribution of cheques in different wards across all the 12 constituencies in Kiambu.

Over 18,000 deserving students have already received bursaries in the first disbursement of 2025, en-

suring that no child misses school due to lack of fees.

The bursary fund guarantees a minimum award of Sh5,000 per student, with full scholarships given to the most vulnerable.

"I have ensured that beneficiaries of our bursary scheme receive a minimum of Sh 5,000, while orphans

are granted full scholarship.

The process of identifying the beneficiaries is done in the most transparent manner at the grassroots level," says Governor Wamatangi.

The directorate has been working with ward bursary committees to ensure that the process is flawless.

"This initiative has be-

come a lifeline for many families, enabling students to pursue their dreams regardless of financial challenges. Special consideration is also given to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and students in Vocational Training Centres," says the Chief Officer Emily Nkoroi.



Ongoing excavation and crushing of rock boulders into hardcore chipping materials using Jaw Stone Crusher Plant at RUJWASCO Quarry/ borrow pit in Gatong'ora Ward, for roads rehabilitation and maintenance works throughout the County, to enhance mobility and accessibility.

By **MARION KANARI**

In the past two years, efforts to improve transportation and boost the economy have led to the modernisation of seven bus parks in six sub-counties. An additional five bus parks are planned for construction, including OJ in Ruiru, Kimende in Lari, Kiganjo in Gatundu South and Dagoretti in Kikuyu, while Thika's main bus park is being redesigned.

Five motorable bridges are being built, including the Mariguiti bridge connecting Gituamba ward, Mwimia bridge in Githiga ward (Githunguri), Kahawa Wendani bridge at Kiuu river in Ruiru, Canaan bridge linking Theta to Gatong'ora ward, and Gwa Gatimu bridge in Ndarugu ward.

Additionally, five foot-bridges have been completed in parts of Gatundu North, Gatundu South, and Githunguri,

Roads, public transport among key priorities by Wamatangi's administration

making it easier to transport goods like tea, milk, and other produce. These include bridges like Lioki Giathieko linking Ngewa and Ikinu wards, Kian-

da Kinene in Gitwe Ndarugo, Githima-Muguti, and Kianwe footbridge at Gatamaiyu River in Komothai ward.

Over 1,000 kilometres

of rural access roads have been improved through grading, gravelling, and drainage works. This has been achieved through 17 County road main-

tenance units across 60 wards. These units use machinery like graders, tippers, rollers, and water bowsers. The gravel used for the roads is sourced locally to save costs and promote local businesses, providing jobs for casual workers. Chief Officer for Roads, Edmund Njihia, says the materials are tested for quality to ensure road durability.

To improve accessibility and security, 570 streetlights have been installed in five informal settlements in Kiambu. This includes 105 lights in Misri, Limuru, 142 in Fort Jesus Gitambaya in Ruiru, 114 in Bosnia, Githurai, 76 in Umoja, Thika, and 163 in Kiangombe. An additional 6,000 solar streetlights are being procured for installation in the 60 wards. This is part of Governor Wamatangi's Angaza Kiambu program, aiming to meet power needs using clean, renewable energy.

Kiambu County, under Governor Kimani Wamatangi, has also developed a County Road Safety Action Plan (2024-2028) in line with the National Road Safety Action Plan. This has led to the creation of Sub-County Transport and Safety Committees to manage road safety and oversee transportation systems. According to the NTSA, 10.6 percent of road accident fatalities in Kenya happen in Kiambu, making it one of the eight high-risk counties. The goal of the four-year plan is to reduce road deaths and injuries by 50 percent through enforcement, education, vehicle safety checks, and improved road infrastructure.

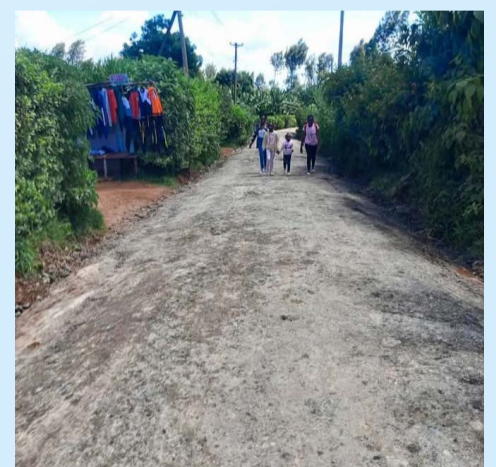
This plan also aims to strengthen partnerships between national and county governments, as well as the private sector, for better road transport management.



Construction of link cabro roads in umoja informal settlement within Thika Municipality.



Kiambu Governor Dr. Kimani Wamatangi inspects the ongoing Kwambira Bus Park project in Limuru Township, Limuru Sub-County.



Rehabilitation of Redhill- Gikuni Road.



Mariguiti Bridge in Kiganjo Ward Gatundu South is almost complete with concreting of deck now complete.

Over 1,000 kilometres of rural access roads have been improved through grading, gravelling, and drainage works. This has been achieved through 17 County road maintenance units across 60 wards.



Ongoing construction of road in Gitambaya in Ruiru Sub-County.

Support in agriculture bearing fruit for Kiambu people



By LUCY MUREITHI

Since taking office, Governor Kimani Wamatangi has launched impactful programs focused on social empowerment and agricultural development.

These initiatives are tackling food insecurity, creating jobs and improving the livelihoods of Kiambu County residents.

Governor Wamatangi's efforts began in December 2022 with a large-scale maize distribution project. To date, over 398,000 tonnes of maize have been distributed to farmers in all 12 sub-counties.

This initiative addresses food insecurity caused by erratic weather and unstable market prices while promoting sustainability through improved maize varieties and modern farming techniques.

As a result, farmers are achieving higher yields, ensuring a steady food supply and boosting their competitiveness in regional markets.

The program has also eased the

burden on low-income households and positioned the county to transition from a food importer to an exporter.

In July 2023, the governor introduced a poultry program to diversify income sources for small-scale farmers.

This initiative has provided 250,000 chicks to farmers, particularly benefiting women and youth in rural areas where jobs are scarce.

The project has created sustainable income opportunities and improved people nutrition with a steady supply of protein.

Beyond household benefits, increased poultry farming has spurred growth in related industries like feed production, veterinary services and marketing, stimulating the county's economy.

Recognising the potential of horticulture, the administration distributed 96,000 fruit seedlings, including pawpaw, mango and orange trees, to farmers across the county.

This initiative aims to diversify agricultural production, combat climate change, and boost incomes.

High-value crops like mangoes and oranges offer better returns, require less water and have longer shelf lives compared to traditional crops.

Additionally, fruit trees help conserve the environment by reducing soil erosion and improving fertility. With growing demand for organic produce, Kiambu farmers are gaining access to lucrative markets, further enhancing their income and quality of life.

These programs are part of a larger strategy that combines sustainability, market access and capacity building.

Farmers are receiving training on modern techniques, pest control, and post-harvest management while accessing subsidised inputs like fertilizers and pesticides. The county is also investing in storage and processing facilities to minimize post-harvest losses and ensure farmers reap maximum benefits.

As Governor Wamatangi approaches his third year in office, his initiatives are transforming Kiambu into a hub of agricultural resilience and economic empowerment. Despite challenges such as

climate change and market fluctuations, the administration's vision and commitment are paving the way for a brighter future.

The Chief Officer in charge of Crops, Mr. Benson Njoroge, says the impact of socio-economic empowerment is already being felt at the grassroots level.

"We are empowering farmers at the bottom of the pyramid—those who cannot afford maize seeds and fertilizer—by enabling them to cultivate their land and achieve a bountiful harvest. We collaborate with agricultural research institutions to ensure that we supply farmers with the best seed varieties suited to their specific regions, based on local climatic conditions," says Njoroge.

He noted that since the launch of agricultural empowerment programs, many residents who previously relied on relief food are now farming independently, thanks to the provision of seed varieties that thrive in their regions.

Beneficiaries of the program have praised the initiative for transforming their lives.

Simon Kanyiri Mwangi, a resident of Ngoliba, said the seeds distributed to farmers in the area have performed exceptionally well, as they are specifically tailored for the semi-arid climate.

"We are happy because we received free seeds from the county government. An announcement was made directing farmers to a designated location to collect the seeds, and any serious farmer took advantage of the opportunity. The Governor ensures that no one is left out, making sure all families have the means to fight hunger," said Mwangi.

Another beneficiary, Salome Nyambura from the Kona Mbaya area, expressed her gratitude to the Governor for helping farmers boost their yields.

"I am grateful to the Governor for providing us with a fast-growing maize variety and additional fertilizer. Now, each of my maize plants has produced two cobs. If this farming program continues and we keep receiving maize seeds and fertilizer, Kiambu will no longer have people begging or relying on food relief," said Nyambura.



Delivered certified maize seeds and fertilizer to over 8,000 farmers as well as pond liners to fish farmers in Kijabe Ward, Lari Sub-County.



Issued improved kienyeji chicks to farmers in the GachieKihara area of Kiambaa Sub-County.

FEEDBACK FROM READERS

I would like to thank Governor Kimani Wamatangi for fulfilling his election pledge by launching the distribution of piglets to youth and men across Kiambu County.

This marks yet another milestone in his commitment to empowering the people of Kiambu through practical and impactful initiatives.

The rollout of this program, which commenced in Gatundu North, has inspired hope among many young people eagerly waiting for their turn to receive piglets.

This initiative will provide them with a sustainable means of income generation through pig rearing, effectively addressing the challenge of unemployment and idle youth in villages.

It is clear that Governor Wamatangi has thoughtfully designed this project to create meaningful opportunities and transform livelihoods.

This program builds on the success of a similar initiative where women across the county were provided with improved kienyeji chicks for rearing.

That project has been a game changer, empowering women economically and enhancing household incomes.

We have no doubt that the piglets project will replicate the same success, if not more, by transforming the lives of men and youth in Kiambu.

As we await our turn to receive

the piglets, we applaud Governor Wamatangi for his visionary leadership and dedication to improving the welfare of the people of Kiambu. His efforts continue to foster an inclusive and progressive environment, enabling residents to thrive through innovative and practical programs.

We look forward to seeing the ripple effects of this project across the county, as it not only boosts economic activities but also strengthens community development.

Julius Kiarie, Limuru Central

The ongoing construction of new Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) centres in Kiambu County is a reflection of the transformative leadership of Governor Kimani Wamatangi.

From what I have seen, the centres are not just classrooms as they are comprehensive learning environments designed to provide a solid foundation for our children's future.

What sets these ECDE centres apart is their thoughtful design. Each centre includes PP1 and PP2 classrooms, an office for tutors and separate ablution blocks for teachers and children, ensuring a safe, hygienic, and conducive learning environment.

Furthermore, the addition of well-equipped play areas—rivaling those in private academies—speaks volumes about the county's commitment to holistic childhood development.

Governor Wamatangi's vision extends beyond infrastructure. The provision of free meals

for the children attending these centres underscores the county's dedication to addressing not just education but also the nutritional needs of young learners. This initiative ensures that children are not only well-educated but also well-nourished, creating a solid platform for their growth and development.

As residents of Kiambu, we are immensely grateful for this project that has revolutionised early education in the county. We applaud Governor Wamatangi for his far-sighted leadership and his commitment to boosting education standards in Kiambu. May this spirit of innovation and service continue to inspire and uplift our communities.

George Ngare, Nyathuna Ward.

County distributes piglets to men as part its social economic empowerment



By SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The County Government of Kiambu has launched the distribution of two month-old piglets to men's groups in the county as part of his administration's social-economic empowerment initiatives through agribusiness.

Governor Kimani Wamatangi distributed the first batch of the piglets, which was part of his campaign manifesto, in Mangu-Ward in Gatundu North Sub County, marking the programme's official launch that will be extended across the county.

Each of the identified groups is benefiting from up to 10 piglets and feed as seed capital, with Wamatangi saying that, in addition to distributing the animals, his administration will assist in extension services and marketing.

"Through this project, we aim to engage both men and youth in pig rearing, which, if well nurtured, has the potential to uplift our people economically. This piglet distribution is part of our grassroots empowerment strategy, which has also seen my administration provide improved Kienyeji chicks to women across Kiambu," the governor said.

Over the past two years, the county has distributed 410,000 chickens, and this year, an additional 240,000 chickens will be provided. Beneficiaries are be-

ing prepared to supply the county ECDE feeding programme, where the 39,000 pupils get uji daily, two eggs a week, and a packet of milk every Thursday.

According to the county chief, his administration has been keen on reviving agriculture in the county. He said that besides the piglets and improved kienyeji chicks, farmers will also get free heifers and will continue getting free maize seeds, fertilizer, and fruits.

County Chief Officer in charge of Agriculture, John Ngige Kuria, said



"We have thoroughly vetted and registered the men's groups before giving them the animals. We have our extension officers embedded with them because we want the project to achieve its intended purpose, which is providing the beneficiaries with an income-generating venture," Mr Ngige said.

the department would work with the beneficiaries to raise the animals for guaranteed best farming practices and marketing.

"We have thoroughly vetted and registered the men's groups before giving them the animals. We have our extension officers embedded with them because we want the project to achieve its intended purpose, which is providing the beneficiaries with an income-generating venture," Mr Ngige said.

With each sow siring between 10 and 15 piglets per litter, Ngige said they expect the groups to own up to 100 pigs within just a few months. After that, they can sell some for profit at a cost of up to Sh30 000 each and keep others for further breeding.

Joseph Mburu, a member of one of the groups gifted with the animals, said that they had already identified a location within the Gatukuyu area where they would

keep them as a team.

He said their group includes a mixture of youth and older men, and they plan to assign themselves responsibilities in recruiting them.

"To us, this is a dream come true. We have always wanted to start an income-generating venture, but we didn't have the capital. But with ten piglets, we are sorted. We will keep them until they litter at least once before thinking about selling them," Mburu said.



Kiambu Governor Kianni Wamatangi (in white apron) during the launch of piglets distribution programme in Mangu-Ward, Gatundu North Sub-County.

Angaza Kiambu: Solar streetlighting rolled out across all the 60 wards



Athar.



Kahawa Sukari Shopping Centre.



Kamondo in Ikinu.



Umoja Thika.

By GRACE NJOKI

The ambitious 'Angaza Kiambu' project has taken the county by storm.

Every ward has become a hive of activity as Governor Kimani Wamatangi's administration rolls out this transformative initiative aimed at installing solar-powered streetlights and promoting green energy.

The governor has been personally overseeing the extensive project, which is being implemented in trading centres across all the 60 wards.

With a target of achieving total

off-grid operation by 2026, Governor Wamatangi has spearheaded the progressive installation of solar streetlights in major towns across Kiambu.

Plans are also underway for the eventual migration of all county-operated hospitals, water projects and offices to solar power.

Historically, Kiambu has struggled with unsustainable power bills amounting to a billion shillings annually, often leading to significant disruptions due to disconnection from the national grid over unpaid bills.

"We aim to shift the county to

renewable energy, a move that will save on development funds that would have otherwise gone to pay the power bills. This is also in line with the climate change mitigation calls and environmental sustainability under the Sustainable Development Goal 7 on clean and affordable energy," Wamatangi notes.

The solar project will see over 10,000 streetlights installed replacing the old grid lighting and will be spread in the wards in Kiambu. The cost-effective energy project will also see other county development projects such as boreholes and water companies migrate from

the national grid.

"We realised that to keep the streetlights on, an annual budget of Sh 260 million was required; this coupled with the maintenance and repair costs and installation of new high masts in shopping centres was unsustainable," noted Virginia Kahonge, the Chief Officer in charge of utilities.

Kahonge added that solar lights are more durable, compared to grid ones saving significant money on maintenance.

Michael Gathungu, a resident of Githiga Ward, lauded the efforts by the governor noting that since the

installation of the new street lights the ward had not experienced the usual blackouts and businesses would run late into the night.

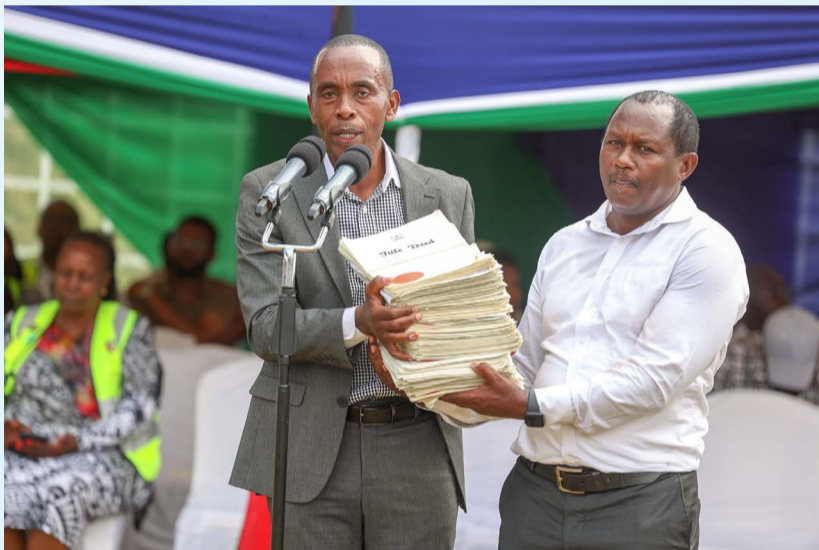
"The solar lights have been a relief because, since the installation of the lights in December, Githiga has not had the constant blackouts that have affected the running of the market and general shops in this area. The security situation has greatly improved," he quips.

Governor Wamatangi adds that the saved funds would go a long way to enhancing development in the county, especially in the health sector.

Pictorial



Distributed maize seeds and fertilizer to over 3,000 farmers in the Magana area in Gatuanyaga Ward in Thika Sub-County.



Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi looks on as Archbishop Phillip Anyoro blesses presents, which he (the governor) donated to 52 couples to tie the knot during the Catholic Church Jubilee Wedding at Ndumberi Stadium.



Distributed improved kienyeji chicks and mango seedlings to over 1,600 farmers in Magana area in Gatuanyaga Ward, Thika Sub-County.



Distributed maize seeds and fertilizer to over 3,000 farmers in the Magana area in Gatuanyaga Ward in Thika Sub-County.



Governor Kimani Wamatangi distributes foodstuffs to elders of Kiama Kia Ma to support the young boys undergoing circumcision in 2024.

Kiambu Governor Dr. Kimani Wamatangi in Kamae area in Kinale Ward, Lari Sub-County during distribution of certified maize seeds and fertilizer to farmers.



Construction of 13 markets progressing steadily, with the launch of additional facilities for traders

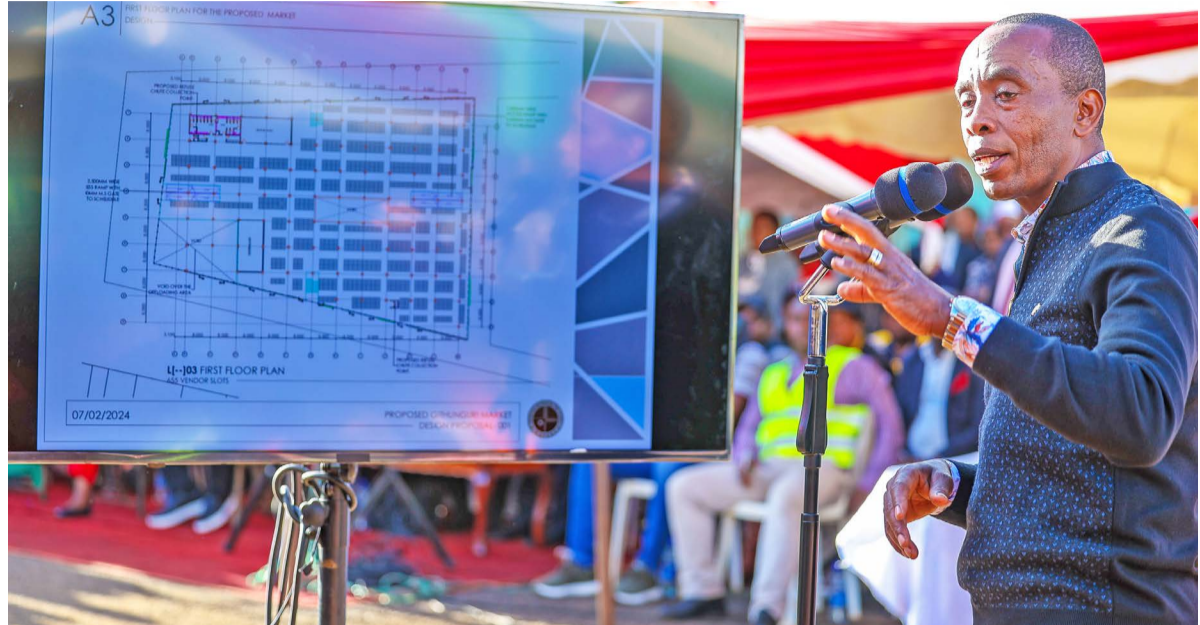
The county government of Kiambu and national government are collaborating in constructing a Ksh. 550 million, three-level modern Githunguri Market in Githunguri Town.

The national government has allocated Ksh. 400 million, while the county government is contributing Ksh. 150 million for the project, which will be implemented in two phases, with the first phase benefiting 2080 traders.

Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi held a public participation forum with traders ahead of the groundbreaking of the project.

The market's design was developed by the county's public works directorate and ratified by Kenya School of TVETS, and it features a 178-capacity car parking lot in the basement. The ground floor will have 645 slots, a loading bay, and cold storage. The first floor will have 655 slots, a social hall, a creche daycare, and a dispensary, while the second floor will host an ICT hub, a restaurant, and 768 stalls.

The governor promised a smooth temporary relocation of traders to pave the way for the construction and assured them that the process of allocation of slots in the new market would be done transparently to ensure only bonafide traders would benefit.



Kiambu Governor Kimani Wamatangi during public participation forum for Githunguri Market.

Construction of 13 markets progressing steadily, with the launch of additional facilities

BY NJERI KARU

The ongoing market construction blitz in Kiambu began 2025 on a strong note, with Governor Kimani Wamatangi officially launching the construction of the Gituamba Modern Market in Gatundu North Subcounty.

The project which is fully funded by the county government, is among the 13 modern markets planned for construction in this financial year, including Ngoliba market in Thika, Kirae, Kairi, Gakoe markets in Gatundu North sub county, Karuri and Ruaka

in Kiambaa sub county, Juja farm in Juja sub county, Kimende market in Lari sub county, Githiga market and Karia market in Githunguri sub county and Ndeiya market in Kikuyu subcounty and Kamangu market in Limuru subcounty.

The facilities will each accommodate over 300 traders and contain amenities such as a cold storage room for the perishable goods, a kitchen, a food court, a decent nursing room for the lactating mothers, a social hall for meetings, an ICT hub for training the youth on digital skills, space for fresh produce and small-

scale traders, an ablution block and ample parking space.

Perimeter walls and well fitted floodlights will also be installed to ensure the safety of traders and their products allowing them to enjoy a 24-hour business cycle.

While addressing residents at Gituamba ward, Gatundu North sub county, the Governor Wamatangi urged contractors to ensure that they empower the local community members by involving them to provision of labour and supply of construction materials during implementation of this project.

"This market which is in line with my government's plan to grow the SMEs sector will not only provide a hub for local vendors and businesses, but also create opportunities for economic growth and job creation. I am thrilled to celebrate this milestone and I look forward to the positive impact it will have on our," he said.

Susan Gatwiri CECM Trade, Industrialisation, Tourism and Investments said once the projects are complete, traders will be able to work in decent facilities.

"The establishment of this market is an assurance of the county's

promise towards boosting local commerce and improving the livelihoods of the people in the county. Once complete the market will be a relief to traders who ply their produce on dusty and unhygienic grounds," says Gatwiri.

She added: "This and every other market being undertaken by the county government is expected to be completed in six months hence my team and I will ensure the construction is fast tracked and executed with precision for the benefit of the traders.



Gituamba Market in Gituamba Ward in Gatundu North Sub-County.



Ndeiya market in Ndeiya Ward, Limuru Sub-County.



Lusigetti Market in Nachu Ward, Kikuyu Sub-County.



Kagwe Market in Nyanduma Ward in Lari Sub-County.



County Aggregation and industrial park at Waruhiu Agricultural Training Centre.

Ksh. 500 million County Aggregation and Industrial Park (CAIP)

By THE KIAMBU REPORT WRITER

The County Government of Kiambu, in collaboration with the national government, has started the construction of a Ksh. 500 million County Aggregation and Industrial Park (CAIP) within Waruhiu Farm in Githunguri.

According to Governor Kimani Wamatangi, the facility, which is on a 10-acre parcel of land, is anticipated to support the value addition and marketing of fruits and horticulture, which are largely produced in Githunguri, Gatundu North and Gatundu South, Kiambu, Kiambaa, Limuru, and Lari sub-counties.

Wamatangi, while officially launched the facility's construction, said his administration has already factored Sh250 million into its 2024-2025 budget, while the national government will contribute the other Sh250 million.

"The aggregation and industrial park will serve as a hub for agricultural processing and manufacturing, creating a vital link between farmers, indus-

tries and markets. The part will focus on the processing and marketing avocado and banana fruits and vegetables and any other horticultural produce in the county," Wamatangi said.

Wamatangi said a feasibility study favouring the grounds' central location, viability, and sustainability guided his decision to locate the project at Waruhiu Agriculture Training Center in Githunguri Sub-County.

The County Aggregation and Industrial Parks will house an aggregation centre with sections for collection, sorting, grading, cleaning, packaging, and cold storage, as well as value addition, processing equipment, and common user facilities.

Further, the CAIP will be linked to an online warehouse management system to promote market access. Its main objective is to grow manufacturing and agro-industrial investments and enhance the competitiveness of the agriculture sector.

"Most people in Kiambu depend on agriculture, mainly producing fruits and horticulture due to the shrinking of land. Regretfully, they never benefit be-

cause intermediaries buy the raw produce cheaply. You will find an avocado fruit bought at Sh5 and sold at 30 shillings in a nearby shopping centre. However, value-adding to their produce and linking them to reliable markets will guarantee the primary producers the highest possible returns," the county chief added.

Kiambu County government has been distributing free avocado seedlings and other farm inputs to local farmers as part of its social and economic empowerment initiatives.

The county chief has stated that this is necessary because the county's farming land base is rapidly being reduced to make way for real estate development, and the people need to find an alternate source of income through agriculture.

The national government, through the Ministry of Trade and Investment, in collaboration with County Governments, has been rolling out County Aggregates and Industrial Parks in forty-seven (47) Counties to promote the value chain approach.

The joint investment intends to



"The aggregation and industrial park will serve as a hub for agricultural processing and manufacturing, creating a vital link between farmers, industries and markets. The part will focus on the processing and marketing avocado and banana fruits and vegetables and any other horticultural produce in the county," Wamatangi

boost agriculture to create inclusive decent jobs, promote productivity at the firm level, increase farmers' income, export, foreign exchange, and grow the economy.

Further, the governor announced that his administration has allocated funds to rehabilitate and expand the infrastructure and install the necessary facilities at the Waruhiu Agriculture Training Center.

Besides infrastructure, which includes fast-tracking the completion of a stalled dam for a steady water supply in the facility that has been grappling with broken equipment and has been reluctant to embrace technology, the governor said the county was pursuing a partnership with Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology to modernize and turn it into an agricultural centre of excellence in the Mt Kenya region.

With the partnership, Wamatangi said the county government seeks to tap the university's capacity for excellence in agriculture research and advanced technology to introduce farmers to modern farming.

The journey to make water accessible to all well on course

By ESTHER KIHANYA

The Department of Water, Environment, Natural Resources, Energy and Climate Change has made great progress for the past two years.

Their focus has been on improving water access, environmental care and building infrastructure to help local communities.

The County Executive Committee Member (CECM) David Kuria has spoken about the positive changes the department has realised.

"We have made important steps to ensure that every person in Kiambu has access to clean water and better sanitation. Our goal is to make sure no one is left behind as we work towards managing water sustainably," he says.

One of the major achievements is the drilling of six new boreholes in areas like Komothai Coffee Growers, Gatuanabu, Lari DCC, Ondiri, Gathanji and Njiku. These boreholes will serve areas with large populations, and the department plans to power them with solar energy in the next financial year. The

boreholes are currently awaiting solar installations, with ongoing efforts to install water pipelines across different parts of the county.

Jennifer Musyoki, the Chief Officer for this department, highlighted the focus on sustainability, explaining that by using solar energy for the boreholes, the county is reducing costs and helping to protect the environment.

The department has also delivered 228 kilometres of water pipes to extend water services throughout the county. They are working on improving drainage systems and upgrading public sanitation facilities.

In the sanitation sector, they have repaired and improved public toilets in places like Wangige Food Market, Kahawa Sukari, Mundoro, Nyathuna, Gathiga, Mboboine, Bibirioni, Muguga and Kiambu Bus Park. New toilets have also been built in cemeteries and playgrounds to ensure that essential services are available to everyone.

To tackle waste management, the Directorate of Environment and Waste Management has been organising monthly clean-ups, making waste bins, and improving



Commissioned a water project in Kimende, Kijabe Ward.

infrastructure. The addition of a weighbridge and other improvements at the Kang'oki landfill has made waste operations more efficient.

Kiambu County is also taking care of its natural resources by setting up new tree nurseries, public parks, and mapping riparian areas. They have been training staff and raising awareness on sustainable practices.

The Directorate of Energy and Climate Change has been busy too. They are working on a County Energy Plan, assessing climate risks, and collaborating with the Adaptation

Consortium on climate finance and legislation. This is important for making the county more resilient to future environmental challenges.

A key milestone is the allocation of Ksh99 million through the Financially Locally Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) Program for projects across all 60 wards. This funding will help address climate change, with communities helping decide which projects are most needed.

Looking ahead, the department's 2024/2025 budget includes more water projects, like the solarisation of the Gititu borehole, and pipeline installations in Muguga and Nyanduma. They also plan to drill more boreholes in areas such as Juja farm, Kabete, Rweni, and Githunguri, among others, through the FLLoCA program.

The department will continue to prioritize natural resource management and environmental protection. Projects include river and wetland assessments, setting up more parks and tree nurseries, and distributing Hass avocado seedlings.

Infrastructure improvements are also planned, such as building a gate and fence at the Kang'oki office site, expanding the landfill, and setting up a Material Recovery Facility. The department will invest in more waste management tools like skip platforms, a compactor, and road maintenance to improve their services.

Kiambu County Government's bold steps to safeguard public land

By MAROA ENOCK

The County Government of Kiambu, through the Directorate of Physical Planning, has started the process to create Part Development Plans (PDPs) for public lands in the county.

Part Development Plans are short-term plans indicating precise sites for immediate implementation of specific projects including land alienation for public use.

This critical legal process is mandated by the Physical and Land Use Planning Act (PLUPA) 2019 focusing on protecting public lands from encroachment and unauthorized changes in use.

These plans are important tools in urban planning. They focus on smaller areas within towns or cities and help plan land use for housing, businesses, public facilities, and roads. They ensure land is used properly and growth happens in an organized way, following the larger



By creating PDPs, we are not only protecting public lands but also making sure they are used in ways that benefit the community. These plans will help guide sustainable growth while ensuring public land is used properly for future generations." Ms. Hannah Maranga, the Director of Physical Planning

development plans of the region.

Ms. Hannah Maranga, the Director of Physical Planning, is leading this effort. Her team has already surveyed over 40 parcels of public land across Kiambu County in the current financial year. These pieces of land are set aside for public amenities, including sites like the proposed Kiliview Primary School in Thika, the Kikuyu Township Primary School, Karweti Water Trust in Githunguri, Kabete High School in Lower Kabete, and the Kiambu County Assembly site, among others.

Ms. Maranga said, "By creating PDPs, we are not only protecting public lands but also making sure they are used in ways that benefit the community. These plans will help guide sustainable growth while ensuring public land is used properly for future generations."

She added, "Apart from PDP preparation the directorate has been working very closely with the National Land Commission (NLC) to ensure

that public land surrendered through subdivision is registered under the Government unlike before where it used to be transferred to private entities without the knowledge of county government. This is as per PLUPA 2019, third schedule (7), and PLUPA regulations 2020. This is just the start of our work to protect public spaces. We are committed to identifying, surveying, and planning for all public lands in the county to ensure they are used as intended."

In the first phase of the project, data was collected and reports were prepared. Draft PDPs have now been shared with stakeholders for feedback.

Kiambu County's CECM for Lands, Housing, Physical Planning, and Urban Development, Ms. Salome Wainaina, announced the completion of the local land use plans in a recent Gazette notice. She stated that "copies of the plans are available for public inspection at the sub-county Physical Planning Offices and

the Office of the Director of Physical Planning in Kiambu town, Red Nova building."

Ms. Wainaina also noted that copies have been sent to Subcounty Administration offices so that anyone interested can review and give their input.

The next steps include further review by various government agencies. Feedback from stakeholders will help refine the final PDPs to ensure they reflect both community needs and regulatory standards. Once stakeholders' input is incorporated, the final version will be submitted to the Cabinet Secretary in charge of Lands and Physical Planning for approval.

PDPs are crucial for guiding structured and sustainable development. PDPs promote a healthy balance between economic growth and environmental sustainability. This approach creates stronger communities that grow in harmony with their surroundings.

Informal settlements get the much needed facelift under Governor Wamatangi in Kiambu



By MAROA ENOCK

In the heart of Thika Municipality, the Kiangombe informal settlement, once neglected, is now filled with hope and opportunity.

Residents are happy with the installation of new integrated solar streetlights. The event, was graced by Governor Kimani Wamatangi.

The highlight of the day was the unveiling of 65 solar-powered streetlights, part of the second Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP 2) by the Kiambu County Government. These lights aim to improve security, reduce crime and boost the local economy by allowing businesses to operate for longer hours and ensuring safer streets for everyone.

Governor Wamatangi has shown a strong commitment to upgrading slum areas across the county. Earlier this month, he commissioned 125 solar streetlights in Bosnia (Githurai) and Fort Jesus (Ruiru), as well as 30 grid-connected lights in Misri (Limuru). In Umoja, another informal settlement in Thika, 40 floodlights are set to be installed soon.

Besides lighting improvements, the County Government, in partnership with the State Department of Housing and Urban Development through KISIP 2, is set to tarmac over 10 kilometres of roads across five settlements. The project, awarded to Amanta Construction Company Ltd, will include walkways, streetlights, and drainage systems.

Kiangombe will receive 1.77 kilometres of tarmacked roads with 85 solar streetlights. Misri will benefit from a 1.5-kilometer road and 75 solar streetlights, while Fort Jesus will have 1.8 kilometres of new roads and 35 streetlights. Bosnia in Githurai will get a 1.6-kilometer road upgrade and 89 streetlights. Umoja will have 0.6 kilometres of link roads with 53 streetlights.

Residents expressed their gratitude. Caro Mburu from Misri said, "These lights will allow businesses to stay open longer, boosting productivity and improving security."

Peter Shitamani, a tailor from Fort Jesus, added, "Better lighting will reduce crime and help businesses grow. The new roads will also make transportation cheaper and easier for us."

These projects, funded by the World Bank and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), aim to uplift informal settlements by improving security, mobility and living conditions, creating a more vibrant future for the residents.

Chief Officer of Housing, Mr. Daniel Njenga, emphasised that these streetlights symbolize not just better infrastructure, but also safety, opportunity, and hope. He urged residents to protect the lights from vandalism, reminding them that these improvements are for their benefit.

Hon. Peter Mburu, MCA of Kamenu Ward, thanked Kiambu County and KISIP for these developments, stating that the improvements in Kiangombe, including roads, drainage, and streetlights, will allow businesses to operate safely into the night and improve access for residents.

Governor Wamatangi stressed the importance of the project, saying, "These streetlights are not just lighting up the streets; they are lighting the way to a safer and more prosperous future. Each light we install helps reduce crime and empowers businesses to grow."

He added, "We are tarmacking over 7 kilometres of roads, which will connect people to new opportunities and improve their quality of life."

These projects show Kiambu County's commitment to improving lives and empowering communities, ensuring that residents can live, work, and thrive in a safer, more vibrant environment.

Governor Kimani Wamatangi launches solar streetlighting programme at Umoja in Thika.



H.E. Governor Beddiqui Wamatangi presents certificate during a colourful ceremony that marked the graduation of 127 trainees from a 6 day intensive Film Capacity Building Workshop held at Kiambu County Headquar.

Wamatangi's impressive two year legacy in youth and sports development



Youth Affairs, Sports and Communication, Ali Osman presents certificate during the Kiambu County Sports Management and Leadership Workshop at the Ndumberi Youth Empowerment Center in Kimambu Sub-County.



Governor Wamatangi's administration has made great progress in sports development. Through partnerships with the Football Kenya Federation (FKF), the county trained 180 referees, who now earn some money per game and certified 120 coaches with CAF 'D' Diplomas, allowing them to coach FIFA-recognised teams

By DUNCAN OJJO

In the two years since Governor Kimani Wamatangi took office, he has focused on youth empowerment and developing sports in Kiambu County. His administration, through the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, has introduced programs aimed at improving skills, entrepreneurship, job opportunities and sports infrastructure.

Youth Empowerment through Skills and Entrepreneurship: One of the key achievements is empowering young people with skills and entrepreneurial opportunities. During the Kiambu County Youth Day celebrations, themed "Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World," Governor Wamatangi led discussions on important topics like digital skills, recycling, sustainable fashion, climate change, and renewable energy. A young entrepreneur was even given a contract to supply brooms to the county, showing how the county supports youth businesses.

Understanding the importance of digital skills, his administration partnered with Meta to provide digital and entrepreneurship training. Over 1,800 young people, including small and medium-sized businesses, were trained at county and sub-county levels to help them succeed in the digital economy.

The county also worked on boosting youth entrepreneurship through the Kiambu County Enterprise Development Fund. A study was carried out with input from banks, county partners, and small businesses to create a plan for the fund. The next step is to present a proposal to the cabinet and county assembly to support youth-led businesses.

Youth Employability and Creative Industries: Wamatangi's administration hosted the first Youth Employability Summit to tackle youth unemployment. Over 80 employers and key stakeholders came together, providing young people with valuable connections to job opportunities.

The county also focused on creative industries, partnering with the Kenya Film Commission to host a six-day Film Capacity Building Workshop. A total of 126 young filmmakers were trained and certified, boosting their skills to compete in local and international markets. The creative arts sector is seen as an important contributor to Kiambu's economy.

Sports Development: Governor Wamatangi's administration has made great progress in sports development. Through partnerships with the Football Kenya Federation (FKF), the county trained 180 referees, who now earn some money per game and certified 120 coaches with CAF 'D' Diplomas, allowing them to coach FIFA-recognised teams. This has created direct and indirect job opportunities in sports.

The Governor's Champions Cup, a football tournament, is promoting grassroots football and linking talented players to Kenya Premier League teams. Kiambu athletes have also excelled nationally and internationally through the Talanta Hela Program, with five athletes selected for advanced training and one chosen to represent Kenya in Spain.

Improvement of Sports Infrastructure: Improving sports infrastructure has been a priority. Stadiums in Thika, Kanjeru, Githunguri, Kirangari and Thigio are under construction, while Kagwe Stadium has been fully upgraded. These facilities will support the county's athletes and encourage more participation in sports. In addition, the county has distributed sports equipment, including footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, and uniforms, to over 800 teams, promoting physical activity and community engagement.

Support for Small Businesses: Around Thika Stadium, 450 business stalls are being built, which will increase the county's revenue and contribute to the sustainability of the sports facilities.

COUNTY SPORTS

Kanjeru Stadium taking shape as youths look forward to its completion



The ongoing construction of Kanjeru Stadium in Gitaru Ward Kabete Sub-County.



Under Governor Kimani Wamatangi's leadership, we are committed to delivering excellent sports facilities that will encourage our youth to pursue sports and raise the sports standards in the county. Since these projects are being done in phases, we ask the people of Kiambu to be patient as we complete the work,"

said Mr. Osman.

By **DUNCAN OJJO**

The transformation of Kanjeru Stadium in Gitaru Ward is moving forward smoothly under the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports. The contractor is already on site and construction is progressing well after adjustments were made to the Bill of Quantities to ensure the right quality and amount of work needed to complete the project.

Currently, drilling for the first stage of the six pavilions is underway using the pile method. This involves using a machine to dig 15 metres deep to make sure the columns are securely placed.

While construction continues, the Department has set up Rungiri Dam Playing Field in

Gitaru Ward, Kabete Sub-County, as an alternative space for sports. China Road and Bridge Corporation helped with backfilling, and the Department levelled the ground to make it suitable for play.

Once Kanjeru Stadium is completed, it will have two football fields: a main field with a standard running track and spectator stands, and a second field for training. There will also be two tennis courts and a basketball court.

Other sports grounds under active development include Thika Stadium, Thigio Grounds, and Kirangari Grounds. At Thika Stadium, construction is going well, with the basketball court 98 percent complete. The unfinished spectator stands for the football field have been com-

pleted, and work on more stands is about to begin, with the stadium expected to hold 15,000 spectators.

Around the stadium, 450 business stalls are being built to help small-scale business owners. These stalls will also boost Kiambu County's revenue, which will support future sports facilities for the community.

At Thigio Grounds, during a visit by the County's top leadership, led by CECM for Youth Affairs, Sports, and Communication, Ali Osman, it was reported that levelling and backfilling were progressing well. Once finished, the field will feature an 11-a-side football pitch with AstroTurf, an athletics track, and a viewing dais.

The second phase of grading and leveling at the Kirangari Vo-

luntary Training Centre's playing grounds in Nyathuna Ward, Kabete Sub-County, is also ongoing. Murrum is being added and compacted, and AstroTurf will be installed. The work will include new changing rooms, a washroom block, and fencing.

In an interview with The Kiambu Report, Mr. Osman expressed his satisfaction with the progress and asked the residents to be patient. "Under Governor Kimani Wamatangi's leadership, we are committed to delivering excellent sports facilities that will encourage our youth to pursue sports and raise the sports standards in the county. Since these projects are being done in phases, we ask the people of Kiambu to be patient as we complete the work," said Mr. Osman.



Leveling and compacting of Thigio Stadium in Ndeiya, Limuru Sub-County in preparation for installation of astro-turf carpet.



Ongoing renovations at Thika Stadium.