

the GVERNOR Monthly

Monthly Revenue Roundtable Meeting



By Brian Keter

Bomet County Governor Prof. Hillary Barchok spearheaded the Monthly Revenue Roundtable meeting held at Bomet County headquarters to leverage ways to increase own-source revenue collection.

According to the county boss, the monthly meeting, which is usually attended by the heads of departments, is a proactive move towards enhancing financial sustainability that will help meet development objectives in the County Government of Bomet.

During the meeting, Governor Barchok stated that own-source revenue would assist the county in meeting the development needs of the residents of Bomet.

"As a county, we are prioritizing the increase of our own-source revenue by setting departmental revenue targets, cascading the targets to the ward level,

sealing revenue loopholes, modernizing our automated collection system, adopting a cashless revenue collection system, and increasing our revenue streams," he said. The Deputy Governor, Shadrack Rotich, also expressed support for the Governor's initiative and emphasized the importance of collective effort in achieving the revenue targets set by the County. He emphasized the importance of collaboration among Department leaders and stakeholders in addressing ways of boosting revenue in Bomet County.

The key focus of the roundtable discussion is the identification and closure of revenue loopholes aimed at curbing losses and maximizing income generation potential. Additionally, during the meeting, plans were unveiled to improve the county's automated collection

system, leveraging technology to streamline revenue collection processes and enhance the county's transition towards a cashless revenue collection system, facilitating seamless transactions and minimizing the risk of revenue leakages.

Later this month, the County Government of Bomet also held another meeting with representatives from Safaricom PLC to explore ways to enhance revenue collection and management systems.

During the session, a range of strategies was discussed, including streamlining revenue management processes, establishing a robust legal framework, and adopting advanced geographical information system data collection techniques.



**Dr Joyce Laboso Mother and Child Wellness
Centre in Longisa ward Bomet East Subcounty.
the facility is 90 percent complete**



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**"Leaders think
and talk about the
solutions.
Followers think
and talk about
the problems."**

—
Brian Tracy

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Visit to Bomet Women Prison



By Kipkirui Sang

The county Government of Bomet through the department of Gender, Culture and Social Services paid visit to Bomet Women Prison for a session with the women in custody. The CIP madam Sarah Soila said that their facility requires an additional building structure for day care and ward for women with young babies. She further stated that the facility should be equipped with learning materials to enable young learners to learn. She

urged the chief officer for the department of Gender Culture and Social Services Mrs. Pauline Korir to mobilized Bomet leadership to assist them in providing the required materials.

While sharing the word of encouragement the Chief Officer for the department of Gender, Culture and Social Services Mrs. Pauline Korir stated women are in custody period should continue to aquarius skills available there for

their future benefit.

During the visit the department teams hared a word of encouragement with Women and children in prison. The staff also donated food stuff, blankets and sanitary towels to the prisoners. "I advised women here to take everything thought with alot of passion so that When you get outside their you will be in a position of applying the skills to earn the living" she said

Women beekeepers of Bomet East



By Aron Cheruiyot

Cannan Women Group, in Kiptobit, Longisa Ward, Bomet East ventures in men dominated bee keeping. The 20 years old group, formed back in 2004 with a membership of 30, has developed 5 apiaries with over 70 Langstroth hives, production capacity of 10kgs of quality honey per hive twice a year, being

marketed locally.

Through county government initiative, the group has benefited in exchange tours including bench marking in Baringo, Bukura Agricultural institute where they gained skills on Apiary management, honey harvesting and hive making which have boosted the group

through selling of locally made bee hives.

Under Small Scale Irrigation and Value Addition Project (SIVAP), through the County Government of Bomet has been trained on bee diseases, parasites and pest, honey harvesting as well as honey marketing.

Kenya Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program workshop at Bomet



By Joan Chepkoech

The County Government of Bomet, through the Department of Water, Sanitation, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change together with the Department of Health and Health Services, held

the first Kenya Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program (K-WASH) orientation workshop at Bomet Health Centre WASH HUB. The workshop focused on sensitizing the unit

members on implementation of the program and expectations, increased sustainable access to improved rural Water supply and Sanitation services, eliminate open defecation and improve financial performance and efficiency of water services across the county.

K-Wash, a program that was anchored by National Water and Sanitation Investment Plan 2022- 2030 covers 19 counties and Bomet among them, will be running for 6 years, 2024- 2030.

Among the indicators used to identify beneficiary counties are approved County Water and Sanitation Strategy and Investment Plan, number of sustainable functioning water schemes, number of households provided with access to an improved sanitation facility and the number of villages achieving sustainable community wide sanitation status.

The County Program implementation unit chaired by CECM's in charge of Water, Sanitation, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change and Health and Medical Services with their respective Chief Officers, Chief Officer.

Other members are Chief Officer Finance, Director of Education (National Government), County Director for Education (ECDEs and VTCs), Directors for Gender and ICT, representative from the office of the County Secretary, WASH program officer, environmental safeguard officer, social safeguard officer, representatives from BOMWASCO and other officials from Health and water department.

Equipping ECDE centers across the county

By Enock Lang'at

The department of Education and Vocational training continues to lay its focus on equipping ECDE centers across the county to the required standards as a gateway to enhancing access to quality education in all the ECDE centers across the county as a legacy agenda for Governor Prof Hillary Barchok.

Improvement of school infrastructure and facilities creates a better learning environment leading to development of positive attitude and motivation for the young learners.

The Chief Officer for Education and Vocational Training Dr John Keter, accompanied by Director for ECDE Mr Thomas Bii, oversaw the distribution of pupils' chairs and tables as well as teachers' lockers and chairs to five ECDE centers, two in each of Nyongores and Kong'asis Wards in Chepalungu Subcounty and one center in Mutarakwa Ward, Bomet Central Sub-County.

The furniture was made at Kabisoge VTC in Nyongores Ward in a program meant to empower VTC centers across the county by procuring chairs and tables from their workshops. This, enables trainees at our VTCs to apply their learning into practical work as well as generating an income to the VTC centers which boosts their financial needs.

Dr Keter and Mr Bii were impressed by the great workmanship produced by the learners at Kabisoge VTCs and reassured the management of similar further engagements.

"Our objective is to empower your students by giving them an opportunity to apply the knowledge they have learned and iron their skills. We will continue working

closely with you on this because we are impressed by your work," Dr Keter told the VTC management



Infrastructure development across the county on high gear



By Yvonne Chemutai

The County Government of Bomet through the department of roads is currently constructing roads around the 25 wards using the new road equipment acquired and each ward is to get 10kms for phase 1. The road construction using the County machinery is ongoing in Sotik, Konoin, Bomet Central and Chepalungu Sub Counties.

Governor Prof. Hillary Barchok in his manifesto pledged to improve roads and open up new roads in areas that haven't been able to have accessible roads. The Governor has intensified the maintenance of existing roads and opening up of new roads across all sub counties. This road projects are expected to improve access to essential services for the community, stimulate economic growth and even development in Bomet County. These road projects are geared towards improving the standards of the people of Bomet County by empowering them economically through creation of conducive environment for carrying out various

economic activities. Farmers from isolated areas can now easily transport their produce from their farms as more roads have become accessible thus translating to economic empowerment of various regions. Some of the ongoing road works are in Chemagel and Kapletundo Wards in Sotik Sub county, Ndaraweta Ward in Bomet Central and Embomos Ward in Konoin Sub County.

Under the public works unit Structural engineers, architects and quantity surveyors went on a site visit to various cattle dips in Bomet Central, Bomet East and Sotik sub counties. The inspection was to establish and identify cattle dips that are in a dilapidated state and in need of repairs. The engineers were joined by staff from the Department of Agriculture, Veterinary Services section who also played part in the inspection exercise. After the site visit, a technical report will be given by the architects and quantity surveyors that will involve coming up with a Bill of quantity (BQ) for the renovation exercise.

The cattle dips inspected were Tarakwa cattle dip in Mutarakwa Ward, Kiptapsir cattle dip in Chemagel Ward, Kiplabotwo cattle dip, Mabwaita cattle dip and Kimugul cattle dip in Rongena-Manaret Ward and Ndanai cattle dip in Ndanai Abosi Ward, Kembu cattle dip and Senetwet cattle dip in Kembu Ward, Eworet cattle dip and Chepkositonik cattle dip in Merigi Ward in Bomet East sub county. Renovation and upgrade of the cattle dips is set to begin soon. The Engineers also inspected ECDE classrooms that have been completed by contractors and whether the classrooms have been built to the set standard. The inspection was done in Chepalungu and Sotik Sub counties. The team inspected classrooms and pit latrines in Yoiywana ECDE in Siongiroi Ward, classrooms in Kokwon ECDE in Rongena-Manaret, Takitech ECDE in Ndanai-Abosi Ward, classrooms and pit latrines in Gelegele ECDE in Ndanai-Abosi Ward.

International Day of Forest Bomet



By Joan Chepkoech

Bomet County is ranked in the top 5 in counties that lead in the conservation of the environment celebrated International Day of Forests 2024 in Chepalungu Forest- Kapchumbe Block, Chesambai.

This year's event themed; Forest and Innovation-new solutions for a better world, saw the National & County Government, Government Agencies NEMA & Kenya Forest Services, and other partners celebrating IDF by planting trees and recognizing the

Important role of forests in conserving the ecosystem. Speaking during the event, key note speakers including DCC Mr. Victor Amonde, KFS Bomet Conservator Mr. Kingori, NEMA Director Mr. Samuel Kanga, CECM Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, Bernad Tonui, Sotik Sub-County Mp. Fransis Sigei, Ndanai-Abosi MCA Paul Kirui and other partners who attended the meeting urged community residents to be ambassador

of Environmental conservation by planting more trees in the forest and avoid making it a grazing zone for their cattle, to manage and grow the Tree cover of 26% and forest cover of 24% in Bomet county. They should however plant indigenous trees and get rid of Eucalyptus for they consume a lot of water hence degrading the environment.

Social Justice League, Bomet urge women to join elective posts

By Kipkirui Sang

The Department of Gender, Culture and Social Services together with the organization of Social Justice League (SJL) held a consultative meeting on measures to be taken to mobilize and give support to young women, women in leadership and women who are aspiring to join politics.

During the meeting that was held at the department office, the director for Social Justice League Mrs. Elizabeth Odondi encouraged the officers from department of Gender to lead as an example in sensitizing young women to venture into politics as per presidential manifesto in achieving two third

gender rule.

Mrs. Odindo also stated that the ten months sensitization will kick off from march running up to December she added that this sensation is very important as it will create ways for our women to join politics and to empower them differently. The team paid a courtesy visit to the office of the deputy governor of Bomet Shadrack Rotich who received them and urged the young women in leadership (politics) needs a lot of encouragement in order to overcome challenges associated with politics, cultural issues among other issues that might hinder women in politics leadership.

Pauline Korir, Chief Officer Gender, Culture and Social Services, said she will organize the sensitization with the department staff and make sure they enriched young women in politics with skills and important of politics to young women, as she add that the department will work on shooting film dubbed 'the plight of PWDs' in continual utilization of the film hub, that will be used to educate the society on the rights of PWDs in the society. It's a way of informing the community about the Film Hub in Silibwet is now functioning

Girl Power: Spirited 15-year-old girl breaking barriers to learn masonry



By Enock Lang'at

Rusty, old and closed buildings paint a grim picture of a 'dead' Kapkikolwo town that was bustling with trading activities eons ago as depicted by the still strong-standing well lined structures that could tell many beautiful tales from many years ago.

One such beautiful story is the tale of the legendary Olelo from Kapkikolwo, said to have been a great wrestler and fighter, so the story goes.

Lying next to the old town and idiosyncratically full of life is the Kapkikolwo Vocational Training College where many youths from the surroundings have gathered to pursue their dreams, big or small. Arriving at the institution around midday, the scorching sun, beautiful landscape and a bee-hive of activities welcome Dr John Keter, the Chief officer for Education and Vocational Training who was on a spot check visit to the VTC and accompanied by Mr Thomas Bii, Director of ECDE.

Whereas one group of students are busy plaiting hair, others doing tailoring lessons, some doing welding, the visiting team's attention was immediately drawn by one young girl amongst a group of many young men doing some masonry practicals.

Meet 15-year-old Mercy Chepkirui, the only girl in the institution undertaking Masonry course, a male-dominated field.

Her young age and diminutive presence do not belie her spirited will to overcome conventional settings. She's determined to become one of the very few



women masons in the county if not in the country.

The institution's principal Madam Rhoda Chepkwony tells us Mercy is focused on her dreams and doesn't feel intimidated by the male-only company she has, as course mates.

Mercy's dreams are being shaped in one of the County Government of Bomet's 33 VTCs with a slightly above 6000 students, a number that keeps rising annually with vocational training gaining traction due to its technical skills advantage in the saturated job market with little job opportunities and many graduates.

Through the allocation of development funds, capitation funds and students' bursaries and full scholarships, CGoB has made great investment in the sector in an ambitious agenda of raising the number of skilled youths in the county which will ultimately address the skyrocketing unemployment rates of graduates.

From the department of Education and Vocational Training, we wish Mercy and the 6000 and more learners in our 33 VTCs all the best as they shape their future.

KEPHIS trains ward agricultural officer in Bomet



By Aron Cheruiyot

The Department of Agriculture livestock and fisheries today in conjunction with Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) conducted training of Ward Agricultural officers (WAO'S) and other agricultural officers in Bomet. The meeting was flagged by Dr Kibet Sitienei, Chief Officer of the department.

KEPHIS trained a couple of issues that will enable the eradication of fake seeds and unworthy seeds in the depots and other seeds vendor.

Excellence in plant health and quality assurance in agriculture is a key vision of KEPHIS, the staff were also trained on how to identify fake seeds in local vendors, they were also assured of support as they embark on the crackdown.

Among the key issues handled were: Mandate of KEPHIS, Roles of KEPHIS in seed certification, roles in phytosanitary, MLND management and control as well as collaboration with County Government of Bomet.

Later on, the day, the director of Kephis, Mr Charles Odonga and SCAO Sammy Rono led the crackdown of seeds vendors in Silibwet town, Bomet East, where they find a vendor who sales uncertified potatoes, on the course of interrogation the culprit managed to sneak.

Speaking on the same issue, Silibwet police line OCS called upon the general public to be vigilant on fake seeds and also assured the department of agriculture. In other new, The Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO) is leveraging technology to enable farmers access to the latest research technologies from the organization.

The Department of Agriculture livestock and fisheries led a consultative meeting with the Kalro team in assessing the suitability of the proposed land for the establishment of a KALRO centre in the county in a bid to boost crops and livestock production.

Led by CECM Rosa Langat, CO Dr Kibet Sitienei and

KALRO team was led by Dr Okoti visited Embomos tea farm, Sotik agricultural farm and Bomet ATC proposed sites.

Deputy Governor David Shadrack Rotich, during a courtesy call after the sites visits, expressed the county's commitment in supporting the establishment of the centre.

Elwhere, Dairy farming and poultry production play a critical role in employment creating, food security, income generation, and economic growth of our county. However, farmers are faced with diminishing productivity due to inadequate feeding, post-harvest losses, diseases and pests, poor breeds, and high cost of production, among others.

Department of Cooperatives and Marketing in conjunction with Unga Feeds conducted farmer trainings at Balek Dairy Cooperative in Bomet Central Sub County on Dairy cow management, calf and heifer management, poultry management among others.

Over 300 participants were drawn from dairy cooperatives across the county for a training on increasing milk and poultry production for economic prosperity in our county.

