

The Governor Weekly **BOMET** ★★★★★

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Delivering on the promise

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Bomet to export tea to Iran following talks



Bomet will soon export its tea to Iran following fruitful talks with the Iranian Embassy, Wednesday between Governor Dr Hillary Barchok and the Iranian Ambassador to Kenya H.E Jafar Barmaki. The talks sought to strengthen bilateral trade ties especially on tea and horticulture produce.

Speaking during the visit, Dr Barchok said that as an agricultural County, his administration seeks to build and expand the trade portfolio by leveraging on the County's agro-processing prowess.

He noted that Iran was a strategic partner and an emerging market that would accord Bomet an opportunity to market its tea direct from the point of production"

"Tea production is one of our main economic activity but we have been having problems with marketing. We want to tap into the lucrative Iranian market." Governor Hillary Barchok said.

On his part, the Iranian Ambassador to Kenya Jafar Barmaki described Kenyan tea as one of the best in the world. He said investors have been attempting to get direct access to Kenyan tea for years.

"Very few Iranians can afford Kenyan tea because of its taste and quality. If I need Kenyan tea, I have to order from Europe and that makes it unaffordable to many Iranians," Mr Barmaki said.

In 2019, the export of tea to Iran dropped to 532,715 kilogrammes from 590,111 the previous year. Bomet produces an estimate of 350,000 metric tonnes of high quality tea annually.

Bomet strives to capitalize on its vast tea plantations totalling 50,000 hectares.



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Bomet, Kenya Film Commission to develop film industry



Bomet has penned down a partnership agreement with the Kenya Film Commission to establish a film hub in Bomet as part of the county government's efforts to create employment and promote the growth of film industry in the region.

Bomet Governor, H.E Dr. Hillary Barchok on behalf of Bomet County and KFC CEO Timothy Owase, Wednesday, signed the MOU paving the way for the development of film industry in Bomet County. The partnership will also entail regular training of the creatives to bridge the skill gaps and build the necessary pool of talent to ensure quality productions.

Born out of a stakeholder engagement forum held in Bomet last year, Bomet County is now the recipient of the Bomet Film Hub facility. Young talents and creatives now have a platform to create content to tell Bomet story and also ekk a living off it. The partnership will also include capacity development programmes to develop the film production skills of Bomet filmmakers.

Witnessing the partnership agreement signing were the County Secretary Stella Lang'at, Chief Officer Social Services, Gender and Culture Mrs Jayne Sigilai, Chief officer ICT Bernard Mutai and KFC officials.



Health CAS Dr Rashid Aman and Bomet Governor Dr Hillary Barchok ahead of the daily press briefings on Covid19. As of 4th September 2020, Bomet County had recorded 126 positive cases cumulatively. The Cumulative number of cases in Home Based Care - 63 while those in isolation was also 63

Dr. Aman also commissioned Bomet County Treatment and Isolation Centre at Koiwa Sub County Hospital. The centre is equipped with 200 beds in addition to 105 beds in other facilities. Bomet now joins the list of counties that have met the government's minimum requisite of 300 bed capacity

Quote of the Week

"I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure, which is: Try to please everybody." -- Herbert Swope

Bomet farmers to reap bountifully from Livestock production

Bomet is set to reap big from Agricultural production following successful talks between Bomet Governor Dr Hillary Barchok and Livestock and Fisheries CAS Hon Linah Jebii Kilimo, on Wednesday at Kilimo House. Bomet will benefit from another 26 coolers in addition to the 14 already secured from the national government. Bomet produces over 490,000 litres of milk daily with 60 percent of the milk being sold to various milk processors in the country.

Milk from Bomet processing plants will be supplied to local ECDEs under the proposed school feeding programme next year.

Mrs Kilimo will visit Bomet County this month to inspect the nitrogen cooling plant in Sotik and distribute 60 AI kits to cooperative societies in Bomet.

Kilimo also challenged farmers to venture into fish farming and assured them that the State Department of Livestock and Fisheries is ready to support them.

She also called upon farmers to join cooperative societies in order to gain better bargaining power for their produce. An Agricultural Training Centre will soon be established in Bomet.



Bomet farmers benefit from 450 metric tones of fertilisers

Over 2500 farmers in Bomet are set to receive free fertilisers as the county prepares to boost its food security.

The donation was distributed by YARA East Africa Limited through their Action Africa programme.

The programme targets to support farmers across the country, will ensure that Bomet is food secure. 3500 farmers from Bomet will benefit from the donation.

Flagging off the consignment, Governor Dr Barchok urged all farmers in the county to embrace the use of modern farming technology and use certified farm inputs to increase productivity and make farming a profitable venture.



Dr Barchok expressed his gratitude to YARA EA for their support to farmers through donation of fertilizers which is estimated to increase productivity by 30%.

YARA EA will also engage in monitoring and evaluation from planting to harvesting to ensure that farmers reap benefits maximum returns from investments.

Agriculture Executive Dr Kipchumba Toweett acknowledged the gesture saying that it will act as a supplement for post covid recovery strategy to improve on food production.