

# No confirmed Covid-19 case in the County



**Governor Dr Hillary Barchok (centre), Deputy Governor David Shadrack Rotich (right) and Medical Services CEC Dr Joseph Sitonik (left) addressing the press at the county government headquarters**

Two suspected cases of coronavirus disease in Bomet County were eventually given a clean bill of health, Tuesday after the results from the samples taken to KEMRI, Nairobi for testing turned out negative.

Addressing the media on March 24, 2020 at the County Headquarters, Bomet Governor H.E Dr. Hillary Barchok revealed that two of the people who had been placed in quarantine at Longisa County Referral Hospital and Tenwek Hospital have tested negative.

“I can now confirm that as at March 24, 2020, there are no reported cases of COVID-19 pandemic in Bomet County. However, we remain on high alert over the the Coronavirus outbreak with 122 isolation beds in private and public hospitals in the County set aside specifically to handle any new cases.” Dr. Barchok said.

The Governor went on to urge members of the public to follow the Ministry of Health guidelines and Government directives as precautionary measures against the COVID-19 menace by observing the highest standards of personal hygiene which include thorough and regular handwashing using soap and running water or use alcohol-based hand sanitizers.

Dr. Barchok also revealed that water will be availed in strategic points in Bomet town in curbing the spread of the disease.

Public sensitization on the pandemic is ongoing. Fumigation of market centres and Public Service vehicles have started. Anyone who feels sick and exhibit symptoms such as fever, sneezing, coughing or difficult breathing is advised to call for assistance through our county hotline numbers 0748076706 or 0754166677.

Additionally, the county government will unveil the emergency toll free number in the coming week.

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## Quote of the Week

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."  
-John F. Kennedy

# Covid-19 sensitization kicks off in Bomet



The past week was a bee-hive of activities for Bomet County Emergency Response team when they carried out community awareness on minimizing the spread of Coronavirus in high risk areas across the County.

The multi-agency team comprises of medical personnel from the County, Private and Mission Hospitals, The Kenya Red Cross Society, The National Security, the Disaster Response team and the media fraternity.

The sensitization and awareness wing of the multi-agency team (the KRCS and the County Public Health Department) carried

out demonstrations on techniques of handwashing and use of sanitizers and other precautionary measures in the County CBD and Silibwet township on Monday, March 23rd 2020.

On Tuesday, March 24, the team carried out community sensitization for residents in Makimeny, Siongiroi, Chebunyo, Kaboson, Sigor, Olbutyo and Kapkwen areas of Chepalungu Subcounty.

On Wednesday, March 25th the team sensitized residents of mogogosiek, Boito, Kaptengecha, Koiwa, cheptalal, Sotit, Somo and Embomos areas in Koinoin Subcounty.

On Thursday, March 26th, the team visited Youth Farmers, Longisa, Mulot, Kapkimolwa, Koibeyon, Chepnaliliet and Kembu areas in Bomet East Subcounty to educate the residents.

On Friday, March 27th the team concluded the week's activities at Chebole, Kapmureito, Soymet, Kaplong, Sotik, Chebilat, Chepkeigei, Burgei, Tembwo, Ngariet and Ndanai areas of Sotik Subcounty.

Next week on March 30th, the team will visit Kitaima, Kapkoros, Chesoen, Kanusin and Tarakwa areas in Bomet Central.

## Policy to protect Farmers to be formulated



The county government of Bomet is in the process of developing agriculture farmers policy that will address the plight of local farmers in different value chains including private and public tea companies operating in the

county.

Speaking during a meeting attended by tea farmers from Ndaraweta, who had paid a courtesy call to the county government, to present their grievances on March 26, Agriculture

CECM Dr. Kipchumba Toweett assured the farmers that the county government will arbitrate and find solutions to the problems ailing the tea industry which should also be incorporated in the new Tea Bill that is before the Senate and National Assembly.

During the meeting, Bomet County Assembly Majority Leader Hon. Josphat Kirui, who is also Ndaraweta MCA, said that he will table the policy in the Assembly once it is approved by the Executive. Once passed, the bill will be a game changer in that the local tea farmer will be protected from unscrupulous traders and middlemen.

The County Government of Bomet is committed to enhancing capacity of tea cooperatives and saccos to provide value to farmers by working with all stakeholders in the tea industry.