

THE GOVERNOR *Weekly*

Bomet East | Bomet Central | Chepalungu | Koroin | Solik

Bomet secures direct export market for its agricultural produce to Iran

Governor Dr Hillary Barchok (left) chats with Iranian Ambassador to Kenya Dr Jafar Barmaki (right) at the county head quarters during a two day visit to Bomet on Thursday



In a bid to improve the livelihood of the residents of Bomet, the county government of Bomet and Iran have strengthened bilateral relations in agriculture, technology, innovation, research and farmer training.

This was revealed when Bomet Governor Dr Hillary Barchok hosted Iranian Ambassador to Kenya Jafar Barmaki, who was on a return visit to Bomet this week.

The two leaders toured the 40-tonne capacity fresh produce horticultural packhouse at Youth Farmers and visited avocado farms of Mr

William Langat - Beliot and Mr Stephen Cheruiyot - Ruka Ruka in Chemaner ward.

Avocado is now one of the most important commercial fruit in Bomet county both for the local and export market. 2000 metric tonnes of avocado are set to be harvested this year which translate to total earnings of ksh 180 million at

full harvest.

With the recommended 70 trees per acre farm, a farmer can fetch up to Ksh 800,000 at full earning. 95,421 avocado seedlings have been distributed to farmers under the subsidy programme.



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Bomet, Narok host the 9th Mara Day celebrations



From left: Bomet Governor Dr Hillary Barchok, East African Community PS Dr. Kevit Desai and Executive Secretary, Lake Victoria Basin Commission Dr Said Ally Matano arrive at Mara Serena Lodge to mark the 9th Mara Day celebrations on Tuesday.

Governor Dr Hillary Barchok joined EAC Principal Secretary Dr. Kevit Desai, Executive Secretary, Lake Victoria Basin Commission - Dr. Ally Said Matano and various environment stakeholders in marking the 9th Mara Day celebrations on 14th and 15th September 2020 in Bomet and Mara Serena respectively.

Mara day is an annual event celebrated every September 15 to coincide with the Great Migration of Wildebeest and zebras from the Serengeti in Tanzania to the Maasai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya. This year's theme was dubbed "Conserved Mara Ecosystem-Our Shared Prosperity" aimed at creating awareness of the importance of the Mara River Basin and its resources and seeks to involve public and private actors in managing resources and to promote public-private

partnerships to sustain management of the river and the region's biodiversity.

Speaking during the two events, Dr Barchok reiterated that the conservation of the Mara ecosystem requires concerted efforts in the management of the Mara basin.

"To conserve and protect the Mara Ecosystem, we have protected more than 100 springs, streams and Nyangores and Amalo Rivers that feed the Mara River" He added that as custodians of the ecosystems, we all need to embrace a culture of conservation through planting deep-rooted trees and nitrogen-fixing plants.

Over the last two years, the county government of Bomet has planted over two (2) million trees against a target of five (5) million trees in various parts of the county. This is a continuous exercise aimed at

increasing the forest cover from 15% to 17% by the year 2022.

The recently approved Climate Change Policy and Climate Change Bill will establish a framework to access climate funds from the national government and other donors.

The Governor acknowledged the contribution of key players in the conservation efforts such as the Kenya Forest Service (KFS) in the restoration and rehabilitation of Chepalungu forest, the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), Sustainable Water Partnership (SWP), CHRISTIAN AID, World Wide Fund (WWF) for nature, Kenya Forest Working Group (KFWG), East Africa Wildlife Society, Kenya Meteorological Department (KMD) among others.

Quote of the week

"A true leader asks advice, when he has time to think; but he never asks advice in a crisis. He acts." Herbert N. Casson

Bomet to be Reviewed under County Peer Review Mechanism



Governor Dr Hillary Barchok shows a copy of Kenya's 2nd APRM Country Review Report after receiving it from Mr. Michael Kisilu (second right). Looking on are staff from the Secretariat.

Bomet County Governor Hillary Barchok has committed to have Bomet County be reviewed under the County Peer Review

Mechanism.

The Governor, while meeting a team from NEPAD/APRM Kenya Secretariat in his

offices Wednesday, committed to the review mechanism citing inconsistencies in reviews done by other independent agencies.

"There is lack of balance in reviews done to counties by independent agencies thus making it confusing for counties to know where they truly are," Dr Barchok said.

"Such independent reviews don't offer the platform for counties to learn from each other," he added.

County Peer Review Mechanism (CPRM) is a voluntary governance "self-assessment" by Kenyan counties to share experiences, reinforce best practices, identify deficiencies, and assess capacity building needs to foster policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated county economic integration.

The mechanism was developed by the Secretariat in collaboration with numerous state agencies. It borrows from the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) which is a continental review mechanism for Heads of State and Governments.

Bomet to Vaccinate 10,000 dogs to Mark World Rabies Day

The County Government of Bomet will conduct a seven-day vaccination exercise across the county from September 21 2020 to October 5 2020.

Speaking during the Community Epidemic and Pandemic Preparedness Programme (CP3) conducted by the International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC), Agriculture and Livestock CEC Kipchumba Toweett said that the week long exercise will seek to create awareness on the rabies community case definition, prevention, control measures and management.

The campaign will culminate in marking the World Rabies Day on September 28, 2020 at Green stadium, where Bomet Governor Dr Hillary Barchok is expected to grace. The exercise will be held in 15 vaccination sites in each sub county

Date	Sub county
21st and 22nd September	Chepalungu Sub county
23rd and 24th September	Sotik Sub county
25th and 29th September	Bomet East Sub county
28th September	Bomet Town
30th September and 1st	Bomet Central Sub county
2nd to 5th October	Konoin Sub county

Pictorials



Governor Dr Hillary Barchok with the the Iranian Ambassador Dr Jafar Barmaki Friday toured a tea farm, Tirgaga, Rorok and Mogogosiek tea factories. Bomet is the leading producer of tea in Kenya, producing approximately 350 Million metric tonnes annually, 195M from the 9 tea factories owned by the more than 81,700 small holder farmers under the umbrella of KTDA and the rest from private factories and multinationals.

From left: Iranian Ambassador to Kenya Dr Jafar Barmaki, Governor Dr Hillary Barchok, Mr William Lang'at an avocado farmer from Chemaner ward and Agriculture Director Mr Eric Boinett during a tour to Mr Lang'at's Hass avocado farm on Thursday. Besides avocado production for export, Bomet seeks to start value addition to the produce for maximum profits to the farmers. The county has distributed more than 95,000 Hass avocado seedlings to farmers at a subsidized price.



Bomet Governor Dr Hillary Barchok (centre), Ndarawetta MCA Josphat Kirui (right) and Chebunyo MCA Joseah Chepkwony (left) visit Ng'ainet trading centre on Wednesday after fire gutted 17 shops destroying properties worth more than sh 10 million in Bomet Central Subcounty Tuesday night. Governor Barchok said the county government will give two million shillings to the traders to start up their businesses again.



Governor Dr Hillary Barchok (right) with Family Bank Chief Executive Officer Rebecca Mbithi (left) at the county headquarter Friday evening during a courtesy call on the Governor to discuss among other issues possible area of partnership.