

The GOVERNOR Monthly

Governor Barchok leads Bomet county residents in Jamhuri day celebrations.



Governor Prof. Hillary Barchok joined residents of Bomet County at Boito Primary School, Konoin Sub-County, to mark this year's Jamhuri Day celebrations a vibrant gathering that reflected on Kenya's independence journey while showcasing Bomet's steady strides in development, unity, and economic empowerment through agriculture. **PHOTO|Brian**

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By Brian Keter

Bomet County Governor, Prof. Hillary Barchok, led residents of Bomet in commemorating this year's Jamhuri Day celebrations held at Boito Primary School in Boito Ward, Konoin Sub-County. The event brought together county and national government officials, as well as community leaders, in a colourful ceremony characterized by reflective speeches, patriotic songs, and vibrant cultural dances that celebrated Kenya's independence.

In his address, Governor Barchok reflected on Kenya's journey since attaining independence and highlighted the progress made in governance, infrastructure, education, healthcare, and economic empowerment. He noted that Bomet County has continued to register steady development over the years, driven by collaborative leadership and the resilience of its people.

The county boss urged residents to safeguard unity and patriotism as key pillars for sustained growth. Governor Barchok also took the opportunity to assess the challenges facing both the National and the county governments, emphasizing the need for collective responsibility in addressing issues

such as unemployment, food security, and economic sustainability.

He encouraged residents of Bomet to embrace innovation, hard work, and partnerships as pathways to unlocking new opportunities. A major highlight of the celebrations was the emphasis on economic empowerment through agriculture. Governor Barchok cited the soon-to-be-commissioned Avocado Packhouse in Boito as a game changer for local farmers. He reiterated that the facility will enable farmers to store their produce, undertake value addition, and access both local and international markets directly.

He noted that this will eliminate exploitative middlemen, increase farmers' earnings, and strengthen the county's agricultural value chains. The Jamhuri Day celebrations also marked the first official public engagement for the newly appointed Bomet County Commissioner, Ms. Caroline Nzvili.

Governor Barchok warmly welcomed her to the county and reaffirmed the county government's commitment to working closely with the national government to ensure coordinated leadership, seamless service delivery, and accelerated

development for the people of Bomet.

Governor Barchok further expressed his appreciation to former County Commissioners, Dr. Ahmed Omar and Mr. Reuben Ratemo, who served in an acting capacity, for their dedication, professionalism, and strong working relationship with the county government during their tenure.

He acknowledged their contribution to peace, security, and effective administration in the county.

The celebrations were attended by several leaders and dignitaries, including County Assembly Speaker Hon. Cosmas Korir, Deputy Governor H.E. Shadrack Rotich, former Bomet Governor H.E. Isaac Ruto, Chepchabas MCA Hon. Wesley Rotich, Chemagel MCA Hon. Dennis Busienei, and Nominated MCAs Hon. Caroline Chelangat, Hon. Felody Chepkirui, and Hon. Lily Cherotich. Also present were members of the County Government Executive led by County Secretary Simon Langat, alongside CECMs Ambrose Koech, Agnes Ngeno, and Joseph Kirui, as well as senior county and national government officials.



Kenya police officers.



Administration police.



Area Chiefs.



County reinforcement officers.



Evans Rono leader of county reinforcement officers.



Choir of Boito ward.

Bomet county revives Kipisorwet market day to boost local trade and economic growth.

By Kipkirui Sang



www.bomet.go.ke
info@bomet.go.ke
BometCounty036



“ May this Christmas season be filled with joy, peace, love, and abundant success within your families and in our community at large. Remember that “Love and Generosity, are the greatest gifts this season.” I wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2026.”

By Brian Keter



The County Government of Bomet, through its Department of Lands, reported the successful reintroduction of Kipisorwet Market Day, an initiative aimed at revitalizing trade and strengthening local economic activities in Nyangores Ward. The reopening of the market was marked by scenes of joy, song, and dance at Kipisorwet Market, reflecting the community's enthusiasm for the return of a key commercial hub.

County officials confirmed that the market will now be held every Wednesday. The county leadership explained that the revival of Kipisorwet Market is expected to restore the lost glory of both Kipisorwet and Goitabsilibwet centres, which had previously served as vibrant trading points for the surrounding communities. They noted that the market is strategically positioned along the Bomet–Narok Highway, making it a potential game changer for traders and investors seeking to tap into the significant business opportunities generated by the busy transport corridor.

Officials further stated that the reintroduced market is projected to make a substantial contribution to the economic growth of the local centre and the wider county.



Kipisorwet market

By providing a reliable trading platform, the market is expected to enhance incomes for small-scale traders, farmers, and entrepreneurs, while also stimulating the growth of related businesses and services in the area. To ensure the smooth and sustainable running of commercial activities, the county government reported that key supporting infrastructure has already been put in place.

These include the completion of access roads serving the market and the construction of public washrooms, measures intended to improve accessibility, hygiene, and overall convenience for traders and customers.

The market was officially opened by the Deputy Governor, H.E. Shadrack Rotich, who reiterated the county administration's commitment to promoting local trade and empowering communities through improved market facilities. The event was attended by Nyangores Ward MCA Hon. Joseah Samoei, Urban Planning Chief Officer Haron Kirui, Devolution Chief Officer Eric Cheruiyot, among other county officials and community leaders, highlighting a collective effort to drive inclusive economic development across Bomet County.



Devolution Chief Officer Eric Cheruiyot

Chief Officer
Eric Cheruiyot
Director Governor Press
Joy Terer



Editor
Emmanuel Sawe
Mathew Rotich

Stories
Enock
Dennis
Fancy
Faith
Yvonne
Kipkurui
Joan
Chirchir

Design by
Emmanuel Sawe
Mathew Rotich

Pictures
Brian Keter
Chirchir
Fancy

Bomet county celebrates International PWDs day.



Bomet County leaders join persons living with disabilities during the International Day of Persons with Disabilities celebrations held in Longisa Town, Bomet East Sub-County, as the county reaffirmed its commitment to disability

By Aron Cheruiyot

December 3rd was observed globally as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, a United Nations designated day aimed at promoting the rights and well-being of persons living with disabilities. This year's theme focused on "Fostering Disability-Inclusive Societies for Advancing Social Progress."

In Bomet County, the County Government, through the Department of Gender, Culture and Social Services, marked the day by celebrating persons living with disabilities during a ceremony held in Longisa Town, Bomet East Sub-

County. The event brought together leaders from both the National and County Governments, including representatives from the State Department of Gender, Culture and Social Services and the County Department of Gender, Culture and Social Services. During the ceremony, persons living with disabilities were encouraged to form community-based organizations (CBOs) to enhance empowerment and access to opportunities.

They were assured of continued support from both the National and County Governments. The County

Government of Bomet was also commended for its deliberate efforts to include persons living with disabilities in its workforce.

The event was attended by several dignitaries, among them CECM for Gender, Culture and Social Services Dr. Benard Tonui, Education CECM Agnes Ngeno, Chief Officer for Gender, Culture and Social Services Hellen Ngetich, Directors Andrew Kimetto and Cherono Kosgey, Deputy County Commissioner David Mbevi, and Bomet East Assistant County Commissioner Timothy Maiyo, among others.



Long awaited relief in Sotik as Etyetab Tindinyek bridge takes shape.



By Allan | Sharon

A project that residents have waited for over generations is steadily becoming a reality as construction of the Etyetab Tindinyek Vehicular Bridge records remarkable progress in Kipsonoi Ward. For decades, communities in Kipsonoi and Rongena-Manaret Wards have endured difficult and sometimes dangerous crossings, particularly during the rainy seasons when rising water levels made movement nearly impossible.

Learners missed school, farmers struggled to transport produce, and patients faced challenges accessing healthcare. The new bridge promises to bring these hardships to an end. Once completed, the Etyetab Tindinyek Vehicular Bridge will create a permanent and reliable link between Kipsonoi and Rongena-Manaret Wards, transforming mobility across Sotik Sub-County. The improved road connection is

expected to significantly reduce travel time, lower transport costs, and enhance safety for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists. The bridge is also set to unlock economic opportunities for the region.

Local farmers will gain easier access to markets, allowing them to sell their produce more efficiently and at better prices. Traders and small business owners are expected to benefit from increased traffic and expanded trade routes, while the area's agricultural potential will be better supported by improved logistics.

Beyond economic gains, the project will strengthen social integration between the two wards. Families will reconnect more easily, public services will be more accessible, and emergency response times are expected to improve. Schools, health

centres, and administrative offices will be within easier reach for thousands of residents.

Community members have welcomed the progress with optimism, describing the bridge as a long-overdue solution to a problem that has held back development for years. Local leaders have praised the steady pace of construction, noting that the project reflects a broader commitment to investing in infrastructure that directly improves the lives of citizens.

As construction continues, expectations are high that the Etyetab Tindinyek Vehicular Bridge will soon be completed and opened for use. When finished, it will not only connect two wards but also serve as a powerful symbol of progress, resilience, and inclusive development in Sotik Sub-County.

Swift overnight response contains twin bushfires in Narok county.



By Joan | Sharon

The Department of Disaster Management last night mounted an emergency response to two separate wild bushfire incidents reported in Narok County, triggering an all-night operation aimed at protecting lives, property, and key economic investments. The first fire was reported at Olomirani Village in Ilmoitok Ward, where strong winds and dry vegetation fueled fast-spreading flames, threatening nearby homesteads.

Almost simultaneously, a second bushfire broke out at the Emoriyoye Kisaruni Conservancy in Mara Ward, Narok West Sub-County, an ecologically sensitive area bordering community land and agricultural investments. Firefighting teams from Narok County, working alongside park rangers and members of the

public, were swiftly deployed to the affected areas. The joint teams battled thick smoke, rough terrain, and limited visibility throughout the night.

Confirming the successful operation, a senior official from the Department of Disaster Management said, "Our teams responded promptly after receiving distress calls and worked tirelessly with county fire fighters, rangers, and residents to contain the fires. Their commitment ensured the flames did not spread to homes, wildlife habitats, or the nearby rose farm plantation," the official said.

After several hours of intense firefighting, both fires were eventually brought under control, with mop-up operations

continuing into the early morning hours to prevent flare-ups. No casualties or damage to residential or commercial property were reported.

The cause of the fires is yet to be established, and investigations are underway. Residents have been urged to exercise caution, especially during the dry season, and to promptly report any fire outbreaks. County officials praised the cooperation between emergency responders and the local community, noting that strong partnerships remain critical in preventing and managing disasters across the county.

Accelerating agroecology for sustainable food system in Bomet county.



Empowering county extension officers to drive agroecology adoption, the initiative aims to transform Bomet's food systems through sustainable avocado production and resilient farming practices. **PHOTO|**Chepwogen

By Chepwogen

World Wide Fund for Nature Kenya (WWF-Kenya), in collaboration with KALRO-Kisii, the Schools and Colleges Permaculture Programme (SCOPE), the Grow Biointensive Agriculture Centre of Kenya (G-BiACK), the Drylands Natural Resources Centre (DNRC) and the County Government of Bomet, is implementing a capacity-building programme targeting County Extension Officers from Bomet East and Bomet Central.

The initiative seeks to strengthen the adoption of agroecological practices within the avocado value chain by training the officers as Trainers of Trainers (TOTs), who will in turn support farmers in adopting integrated agricultural production systems. According to the programme design, the trained officers will support farmers to establish agroecology model farms guided by the 10 Elements of Agroecology.

The model farms are expected to demonstrate integrated enterprises, multi-strata cropping systems that combine avocado with compatible crops, as well as resource-efficient production and recycling systems.

The agroecology model farms will serve as learning hubs aimed at promoting sustainable and resilient food systems across Bomet County.



Governor Barchok leads World AIDS commemoration in Bomet county.



Governor Barchok, Bomet county.

By Fancy Chepkirui

Governor Prof. Hillary Barchok led county leadership, health stakeholders, development partners, and members of the public at Siliwet Stadium as Bomet County joined the rest of the world in commemorating World AIDS Day on December 1st. The event served not only as a moment of remembrance, but also as a renewed call to action and collective responsibility in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Speaking during the commemoration, the Governor highlighted the steady progress Bomet County has made in reducing the burden of HIV/AIDS. He noted that the county has recorded a decline in new HIV infections and HIV/AIDS-related deaths. While the national Mother-to-Child Transmission (MTCT) rate currently stands at 9.26 percent with Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT) coverage at 90.6 percent, Bomet County has surpassed national performance with PMTCT coverage of 97.89 percent and a significantly lower MTCT rate of 6.37 percent.

The Governor further observed that the national HIV prevalence is 3.03 percent compared to Bomet County's lower prevalence of 1.35

percent, reflecting the impact of sustained prevention and treatment interventions. Governor Barchok emphasized the county's investment in strengthening healthcare systems and human resources.

He reported that 40 healthcare workers across county and sub-county hospitals, as well as high-volume health facilities, have been trained in the management of Advanced HIV Disease to improve early screening and ensure timely referrals from spoke facilities to designated hubs. Key facilities, including Longisa County Referral Hospital, AGC Tenwek Hospital, and St. Clare's Kaplong Hospital, have been upgraded to offer high-quality care through the introduction of newer drug regimens and enhanced supportive services, with plans underway to further expand the hub network.

The Governor also underscored the importance of partnerships in driving these achievements. He acknowledged collaborations with the Walter Reed Project and AMREF, which have enabled the deployment of modern computer-aided digital X-ray systems to strengthen tuberculosis screening critical given that TB remains the leading cause of death among

people living with HIV.

In addition, partnerships with Kasha Technologies have improved last-mile delivery of antiretroviral drugs, particularly enhancing access for men at workplaces and residences. Looking ahead, Governor Barchok revealed that the county will work with the Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI) and the South Rift HIV Technical Working Group to conduct a study on the prevalence of Advanced HIV Disease among stable clients on antiretroviral therapy, with the aim of tailoring services to the county's unique needs.

He also announced plans to partner with Kasha Technologies to conduct a Willingness-to-Pay Study as part of preparations for sustainability in the face of diminishing donor funding. In closing, the Governor paid tribute to frontline healthcare workers for their unwavering dedication and lifesaving service. He also recognized Community Health Promoters and communities of people living with HIV for their resilience, commitment to treatment adherence, and collective efforts toward the shared goal of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030.

Lomgisa hospital unveils advanced 160-slice CT scan.



Longisa County Referral Hospital unveils state-of-the-art 160-slice CT scan, boosting diagnostic accuracy and bringing advanced healthcare closer to Bomet residents. **PHOTO|Mathew**

By Yvonne

Longisa County Referral Hospital announced that it was pleased to inform the public that its state-of-the-art 160-slice CT scan machine had become fully operational, marking a significant milestone in the facility's ongoing commitment to delivering high-quality, reliable, and accessible diagnostic services to the community.

The hospital explained that the installation of the advanced CT scan system would greatly enhance its diagnostic capacity by enabling timely and accurate diagnosis, improving treatment planning, and significantly reducing referrals to other facilities. It noted that the new technology would also

minimize delays in care while strengthening emergency and critical services, particularly in the management of trauma cases, stroke, and other life-threatening conditions. Hospital management further stated that the commissioning of the CT scan machine represented a new chapter in its pursuit of excellence in healthcare delivery and reflected its unwavering dedication to smooth operations and patient-centered service.

According to the hospital, the modern equipment would support a wide range of clinical applications, including neurology, cardiology, oncology, trauma assessment, and comprehensive

full-body imaging, thereby improving clinical decision-making across multiple departments.

In conclusion, the hospital emphasized that this strategic investment reinforced its mission to provide comprehensive, high-quality healthcare services closer to the people of Bomet County and the wider region, ensuring that residents can access advanced diagnostic services without the burden of traveling long distances.



Bomet county strengthens trade and investment capacity at national forum.



Bomet County is boosting its investment profile following participation in the National County Investment Readiness Forum and a Master Class on Investment Attraction. County leaders gained key insights and strategies to attract investors in sectors like agriculture, renewable energy, tourism, and technology, positioning Bomet as a competitive and investor-friendly county. **PHOTO|Invest in Kenya**

By Dennis Chepkwony

Bomet County has taken a major step towards becoming a top investment destination after successfully participating in a comprehensive Master Class on Investment Attraction and the inaugural County Investment Readiness Forum.

The three-day forum, held from December 8-10, 2025, at the prestigious Windsor Country and Golf Club, brought together county leaders, investment experts, and stakeholders to shape a new vision for economic growth in Bomet. The Bomet County team was led by Dr. Nelson Tore, Chief Officer in the Department of Trade, Energy, Tourism, Investment and Industry (TETII), alongside Trade

Director Mr. Paul Towett and Dr. Sigilai. Participants engaged in intensive sessions on investor targeting, project packaging, investment policy frameworks, and strategies to create a conducive business environment.

"The forum provided practical tools that will enable Bomet County to attract both local and international investors," said Dr. Tore. "We are optimistic about translating these strategies into tangible projects that drive economic growth." Expert facilitators led the Master Class, presenting case studies of successful investment initiatives from across Kenya and beyond. Key areas of focus included agriculture value chains, renewable

energy, tourism infrastructure, and technology-driven services sectors in which Bomet has significant potential.

The forum also served as a valuable networking platform, allowing Bomet officials to engage with potential investors, development partners, and other counties to explore collaborations and joint ventures.

With these new insights and connections, Bomet County is positioning itself as a competitive and investor-friendly county, ready to harness opportunities for sustainable growth and development.

Over 900 Bomet VTC trainees sit for NITA exams amid county boost in vocational training.



By Enock

More than 900 trainees from Bomet County's 33 Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) began their National Industrial Training Authority (NITA) examinations this morning. The exams are being conducted at 11 centers, including Ndani, Kaplong, Siwot, Tegat, Kabisoge, Kaboson, Kapsabul, Emkwen, Seanin, Kaptebengwet, and Boito VTCs. Chief Officer for Education and Vocational Training, Dr John Keter, officiated the start of the examinations at Ndani

VTC and also visited Kaplong VTC to monitor the ongoing tests. Dr Keter expressed his admiration for the progress made by the trainees, particularly those who had upgraded their training from grade 3 to grade 1.

He conveyed the best wishes of Governor Prof Hillary Barchok to all the candidates. Dr Keter highlighted that vocational training continues to gain momentum in Bomet County, with 33 centers offering various

artisan courses to over 6,000 youths.

He noted that the county government, under Governor Barchok's leadership, has invested heavily in upgrading VTC infrastructure, providing operational capitation funds, and offering full and partial scholarships to trainees.



Bomet CECM donates 25,000 seedlings to restore riverbanks.



By Kipyegon Chirchir

The County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, Juliah Chepkuto, has expressed concern over human activities along riverbanks, warning that they have negatively affected both water quality and quantity.

She emphasized the need for a coordinated effort in community sensitization ahead of the full implementation of the riparian land policy recently assented to by the President. CECM Chepkuto made the remarks during a sensitization meeting organized by the National Museums of Kenya (NMK) and the

Kenya Electricity Generating Company (KenGen) in Bomet East Sub-County.

The meeting was held prior to the donation of 25,000 tree seedlings to various Water Resources Users Associations (WRUAs) in the region as part of efforts to rehabilitate riparian areas. She noted that Isei WRUA and Nyangores WRUA would each receive 10,000 seedlings, while Lelaitich WRUA would be allocated 5,000 seedlings. According to Chepkuto, the distribution of the seedlings is strategic, targeting WRUAs along key river basins to ensure maximum impact.

The CECM highlighted the importance of community involvement in conservation initiatives, stressing that the partnership between the county government, NMK, and KenGen underscores a shared commitment to environmental sustainability and the protection of Bomet's water towers.