

+ THIS WEEK @ A GLANCE

- Housing Conference in Kisumu
- Kisumu Marks 2019 World Water Day
- County in a bid to boost revenue collection
- Plant trees and conserve forests
- Ksh. 2Billion Water Training Institute to be put up in Kisumu
- Disaster risk reduction



Governor, Professor Nyong'o addressing stakeholders during the Housing Conference held at Grand Royal Swiss Hotel, Kisumu.

HOUSING CONFERENCE IN KISUMU

Kisumu County played host to the three day International Housing Conference held at Grand Royal Swiss Hotel.

The conference that was presided over by the Kisumu Governor, Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o flanked by his Deputy Dr. Mathew Owili, focussed on the implementation of adequate and affordable housing which is one of the Big Four agenda

The Governor reiterated on the importance of maintaining green space in the County as development takes place, since it is the only way of ensuring that residents of Kisumu have habitable homes

In line with the theme 'Adequate and Affordable Housing for all', the noble initiative links different international development partners, the county government of Kisumu and the civil societies to collaborate in the delivery of the key objectives to this agenda.

In respect to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, every person has a right to accessible ,adequate housing and sanitation as stipulated in the Kenyan constitution article 43(1-b). This can be attained when the County Government is fully involved as the national government plays the role of policy direction to ensure residents finds quality life and human dignity.

The social expectation of the Kenya vision 2030, adequate housing is given weight to entirely change the face of this nation. It is envisaged that by that then, Kenya will be an urban country, where a lift to livelihood is to be loud.

The conference made the following resolution,

THAT;

There will be an improved system of community mortgage programmes that will help in land acquisition through the community association based on the concept of the community ownership.

Adequate housing is a basic human right that ensure their peace and dignity. This focus on initiating affordable housing especially for the poor.

Effort to strengthen the non-profit community-based organisations to ensure community stewardship.

The need to enlarge public awareness on their rights and lastly the implementation of the housing agenda.

The conference therefore meant to address and provide strategies that can be used worldwide in thirst to achieve affordable housing.



Kisumu Deputy Governor, Dr Mathew Owili , commissioning a water project at Muhoroni sub county during the World Water Day Celebrations.

KISUMU MARKS 2019 WORLD WATER DAY

Kisumu County joined the rest of the world in celebrating the International World Water Day held at the Jomo Kenyatta Sports Ground.

The International Water Day themed 'Leaving No One Behind', focused on inclusivity project and action plans.

To commemorate the global event the, County Government commissioned two water extension projects in Muhoroni sub county to improve water access in the regions.

The two community water projects were among the initiatives launched in Chemelil by the County Government in close partnership with the Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Project (KIWASH).

In a speech read on his behalf by his Deputy Dr Mathew Owili, Kisumu Governor Prof Anyang' Nyong'o called for an inclusive multi sectorial approach to solve water issues in the County, sentiments echoed earlier by Water CEC Salmon Drimba.

The County Government through the water directorate has already made significant steps to develop water infrastructure to improve water access from the current 58% to 68% before 2022.

According to the Governor, 86 water projects will be implemented across the county this financial year.

Nationally, the celebrations were held in Kakamega as the country paid homage to the global event.



Kisumu Governor, Professor Anyang' Nyong'o handing over a gift to Hon. Francis Mathaura after a consultative meeting in his office at the Prosperity House

COUNTY IN A BID TO BOOST REVENUE COLLECTION

Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) board members led by the chairman Hon. Francis Muthaura, this morning called on the Kisumu Governor, Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o to initiate collaboration between Kisumu County and KRA in a bid to boost revenue collection in the County, by enhancing seamless revenue collection in the market.

This collaboration will go a long way in ensuring that all revenue collection streams are identified for revenue collection. These includes; land rates, properties and business premises.

Dr. Ochieng' Owili, Kisumu's Deputy Governor on his part, urged KRA to help the County Government identify China fish import gaps and help in cubbing fish importation in the County.

KRA will be putting up one of their working stations within the County premises and deploy their staffs to the work station, an idea aimed at bringing services closer to the County Government thus saving on time lost by officers visiting their offices for clearances. The process will be spearheaded by the County Minister for Finance, Hon. Nerry Achar.

PLANT TREES AND CONSERVE FORESTS

The County Government of Kisumu joined the rest of the world in marking the International Day of Forests in Kajulu East ward in Kisumu.

While Representing the Governor, the County Minister for Environment Hon. Drimba, encouraged the residents to observe the theme of the day which was forest and education, engaging children and youth to achieve 10% tree cover by the end of 2022. He added that everybody should always plant trees for they have more benefits, for Kajulu residents trees act as water catchment for the whole of Kisumu Town.

"Forest also play a critical role in climate change such as control of global warming and currently, the government is conducting forest education in schools and other learning institutions so as to create awareness on the importance of forest planting and conservation." Stated the County Minister.

The Kenya Forest Service County Conservator Mr. Ombiri encouraged the people to plant trees. He emphasized that people should observe the law on forest conservation. "Every farm should have 10% of it covered with trees." He said. Noting that Kisumu County had only 0.4% as forest cover.

The chief Guest madam Josephine Ouko encouraged the residents on the importance of forest and different ways on how achieving 10% forest cover can be done. She added that it was high time the residents started planting trees echoing the words of the county minister "Tuanze kupanda miti" let's begin planting trees.



County Minister for Environment, Water and Natural Resources , Hon. Salmon Orimba planting a tree to mark the World Forest Day.

Other stakeholders who attended the meeting were Kajulu East MCA Mr. Roy Samo, Judge Julius Ng'arng'ar, NYS commandant and Youths, Nema representative Mrs. Brenda Obura, KECROCOG representative and KIWASCO Managing Director Mr. Thomas Odongo.

KSH. 2 BILLION WATER TRAINING INSTITUTE TO BE PUT UP IN KISUMU.

Due to increased demand for water professionals, the institute intends to put up a Ksh. 2 billion institute in Miwani to serve the whole of the East African Region and emerging economies of South Sudan and the Great Lake Region.

This was announced by the Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Chairperson Hon. Wavinya Ndeti alongside a delegation from KEWI during a courtesy call to Kisumu Governor, Professor Anyang' Nyong'o's Office this week

KEWI that has been training Water Resource Management Professionals since 1960, set up a training institute in Kisumu in 2012.

The institute and the County Government are working on partnership model that will boost water provision in the county by drilling more boreholes through the County department of water and environment under its CEC, Salmon Orimba.



Governor Nyang'o in the company of CEC Salmon Orimba, and Chief Officer Maurice Owino after a discussive meeting with a delegation from KEWI led by Hon. Wavinya Ndeti in the Governor's office, Prosperity House.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

The County department of Special Programmes under the leadership of Ruth Odinga in collaboration with Plan International today held a consultative meeting to discuss the status of risk reduction project and implementation process at Grand Royal Swiss Hotel.

Plan International leadership recognises the government's commitment to ensure that the public is safe from disasters. To ensure this safety, Plan International lauds the disaster risk management whose main objective is to reduce risk to communities and infrastructure resulting from climate related disaster such as drought and floods.

On his part, disaster reduction risk project chairman Mr George Ombuya, the project has since been active, following the fact that they have achieved planting trees in schools, churches and keeping the markets clean. However, he noted that communication within the structure has been poor that will eventually paralyse the service delivery.

The department was proud to announce that in the near future, there will be installation of a weather satellite within the County to help in real time information to farmers and local residents. This will boost to the County in its effort to improve its ability to cooperate and respond effectively to the weather changes. Some sub county in this arrangement, will receive a modern weather station. The project is expected to be rolled out in the remaining sub counties in the near future.



A group photo of disaster management committee from kisumu west sub-county during a consultative meeting to facilitate the implementation of the disaster risk project

A Publication of Information and Communication, 4th Floor, The Prosperity House,
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A Publication of Communication Department of County Government of Kisumu



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