

# 017 MAKUENI

One  
Year  
Review

Our People, Our Priority

A publication of The Government of Makueni County



Strategic Partnerships:  
Makueni hosts  
The 1st National  
Mango Conference

Innovation:  
Launch of  
MyCounty App

The big  
Water Agenda

Good Gervornance  
& Service Delivery

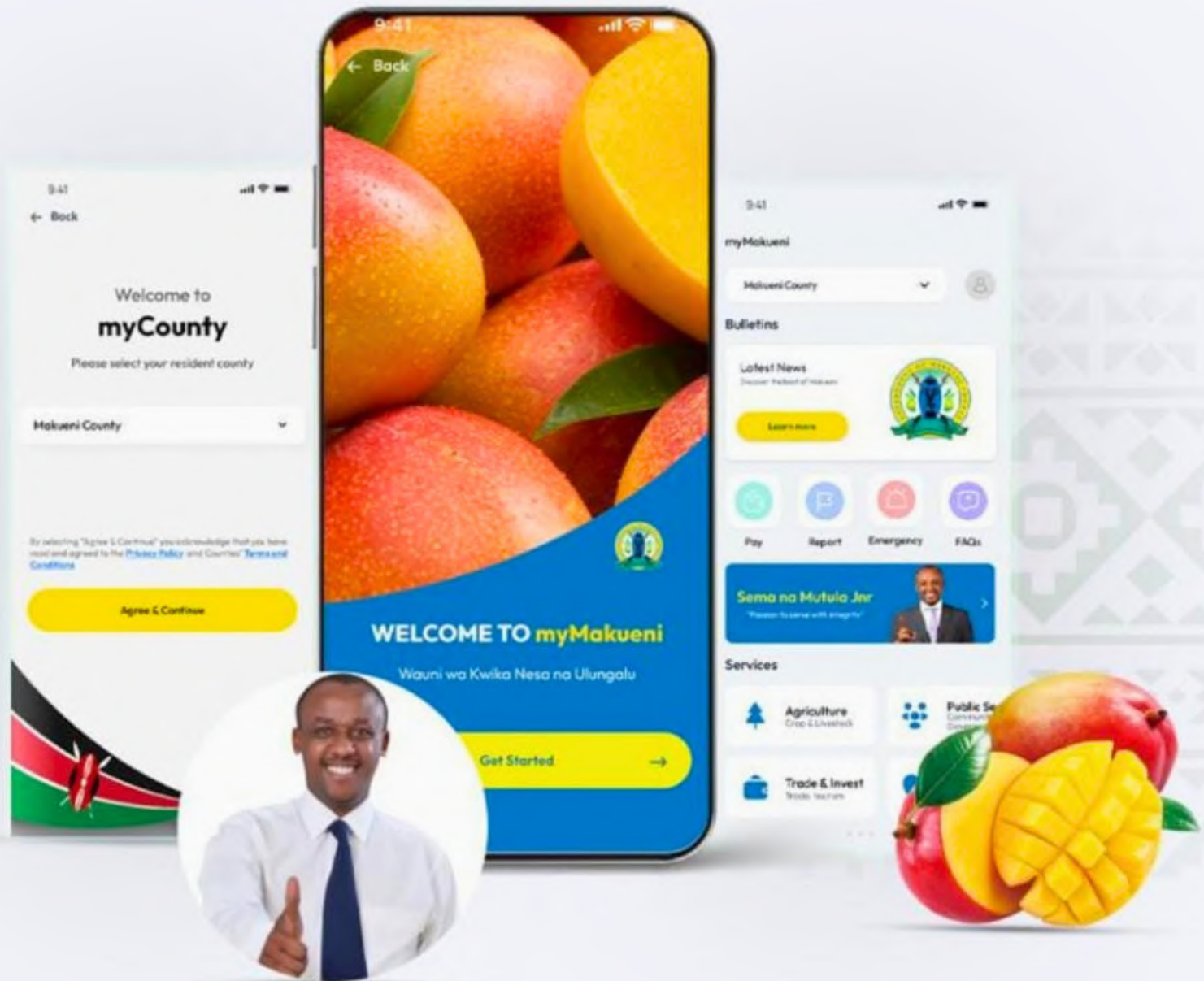


2022-2023 ISSUE NUMBER: 01




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*"Wauni wa kwika nesa, na ulungalu"*





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Good Governance & Service Delivery



2022-2023 ISSUE NUMBER: 01

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# *ABOUT MAKUENI COUNTY*

Makueni County, located in South Eastern Kenya, is known for its natural beauty, diverse cultures, and the visionary leadership of Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr. The region boasts lush landscapes with rolling hills, vibrant valleys, and the captivating Chyulu Hills, forming a picturesque backdrop for its journey toward socio-economic development and environmental preservation.

Under Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr.'s leadership, the county has witnessed notable economic development, marked by strategic investments and infrastructure improvements. Agriculture, a significant sector, has received a boost through sustainable practices and government support, enhancing both food security and the local economy. Additionally, substantial efforts are made to elevate healthcare and education, improving access and quality through upgraded facilities, better resources, and enhanced educator capacities.

A defining feature of Makueni County's governance is its dedication to environmental sustainability. The administration is actively engaging in conservation efforts, encompassing tree planting initiatives and biodiversity protection. This commitment has underscored the importance of preserving the natural habitat, harmonizing human progress with environmental well-being.

Transparency and inclusive governance are paramount during Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr.'s tenure. The government's efforts to ensure citizen involvement and accessible information fostered trust and accountability within the community. Makueni County's holistic approach to development, respecting its environment, empowering its people, and upholding good governance has set a promising course for its future, emphasizing a balanced and prosperous trajectory for its residents while preserving its natural splendor.

Makueni County stands as a testament to sustainable development and community engagement. Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr.'s administration is prioritizing inclusivity, actively involving citizens in decision-making processes through public forums and consultations. This approach is empowering individuals to voice their concerns and aspirations, ensuring policies and initiatives are truly resonated with the needs of the people. It is fostering a sense of collective responsibility and ownership, further strengthening the county's social fabric and contributing to its overall progress. The success of Makueni County under Governor Kilonzo Jr. serves as an inspiring model for balanced growth, demonstrating that economic prosperity, environmental stewardship, and social well-being can thrive hand in hand with an engaged and empowered citizenry.





## **H.E Governor** *Mutula Kilongo Jr.*

A key figure in Kenyan politics, the 2nd Governor of Makueni County prioritizes youth empowerment, social welfare, technology and sports development, working towards inclusive and sustainable progress in the region. Through various initiatives, he aims to enhance the lives of citizens and create a more inclusive and engaged community.

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## **H.E Deputy Governor** *Lucy Mufifi*

A long-serving administrator and dedicated public servant known for her unwavering commitment to her community in Makueni County.

With her passion for social justice, she brings a wealth of experience to her role. Her dynamic leadership style and focus on grassroots development make her a respected figure in local politics, and she continues to play a pivotal role in the county's progress.



# OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## Governor Advocates for Development Boost During Presidential Visit

In a bid to boost development prospects within Makueni County, Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jr hosted President William Samoei Ruto at the innovative Konza Technopolis, Kilome. The event coincided with the auspicious occasion of the award of charter to the Open University of Kenya, and Governor Kilonzo seized the moment to advocate for crucial projects that could potentially reshape the region's economic landscape.



During the gathering, Governor Kilonzo passionately advocated for the tarmacking of the Emali-Ukia road. He emphasized that this vital infrastructure link, connecting the lower Eastern to the Northern Frontier Counties, could serve as a linchpin for regional growth. The proposed Namanga-Kajiado-Emali-Ukia-Garissa road, he noted, holds immense potential to drive development across Kajiado, Makueni, Machakos, and Garissa counties.

Furthermore, the governor emphasized the necessity of extending the national fiber optic cable from the county commissioner's office headquarters to other key offices in the region. This move, he argued, would significantly bolster digital connectivity and technological advancements, thus fostering economic progress.

Governor Kilonzo also sought the president's intervention in the extension of the new proposed Nolturesh water line from Kajiado county through Konza, benefitting various parts of Makueni and its residents. This vital initiative could bring a consistent supply of clean water, enhancing the quality of life for the local populace.

In conjunction with these developmental pleas, the Open University of Kenya was lauded for its role in education, particularly in the realm of virtual learning. The university currently offers a diverse range of courses, including Bachelor of Science in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics, Bachelor of Science in Data Science, Bachelor of Science in Economics and Statistics, and more. This educational endeavor is set to equip the youth with essential skills and knowledge for a digital future.

The visit and subsequent discussions illustrated a promising commitment towards regional development, paving the way for a brighter future for Makueni County and its neighboring regions.



## Bill Gates' Visit Sparks Health Revolution in Makueni

The visit by Mr. Bill Gates, the co-founder of Microsoft and co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) last year has seen immense improvement in maternal and child health care.


Mr. Gates was deeply impressed by the progress made by the health and water department, thanks to ThinkWell “an organization that support health financing in developing countries” for organizing the co-chairs visit to Makueni.

ThinkWell and Jacarada having joined forces were given a grant by BMGF to implement a three-year Kenya Quality Ecosystem project within the county.

The collaborative partnership seeks to link maternal and newborn health solutions with the available budget and establish a data-driven approach to address the challenges faced by mothers throughout their healthcare journeys.

As a part of strengthening the maternal and newborn solutions other partners supporting the initiative include Skoll Foundation through Financing Alliance for Health, (VSO) voluntary services overseas and Jhpiego.



A photograph of Anita Mutula, the 1st Lady of Makueni County, speaking at a podium. She is wearing a light blue dress with white polka dots and has her hair styled in a bun. She is holding a microphone and gesturing with her hands. In the background, a larger, semi-transparent image of her smiling is visible.

"Many girls need to receive education on comprehensive sexuality education to acquire basic knowledge of sexual and reproductive health so as to reduce unintended pregnancies."

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Anita Mutula

1st Lady, Makueni County



"Girls, after getting pregnant, you're not done,' First Lady tells teen mothers.

Many adolescent girls engage in sexual activities, but they may not be fully aware of contraception, pregnancy, and sexually transmitted infections. This lack of awareness has led Makueni First Lady, Anita Mutula, to champion the use of birth control and barrier protection among young mothers to decrease the likelihood of recurring pregnancies in schools.

In one of her powerful messages at World Contraceptive Day celebrations at Tawa Sub-County Hospital, Mbooni, Anita emphasized the importance of access to contraceptives and comprehensive sexual and reproductive health education.

"There are over 6 million women in Kenya with unmet needs for family planning, according to statistics. Therefore, Community Health Promoters should be empowered so that they can provide short-term methods of family planning like condoms and injectables," Anita said in her address.

The First Lady, who has been at the forefront of maternal and child health matters, has also maintained that preying on school girls has no place in the current society.

"Preying on school girls and impregnating them is wrong. If by any chance we have a pregnant teen, then we should show compassion towards them, even at the family level," said Anita.

Although the pregnancy rate in adolescents has been declining steadily over the years, it remains a major public health problem with lasting repercussions for the teenage mothers, their infants, families, and society as a whole."

"Among the successful strategies to prevent adolescent pregnancy that Anita advocates are: community programs to improve social development, responsible sexual behavior education, and improved contraceptive counseling. Many of these strategies need to be implemented at the family and community levels.

"It is a woman's fundamental right to contraceptive information, and healthcare workers should proactively provide it," she added.

She challenged the County Health Management Team to reach out to male stakeholders and urged parents to educate their sons on the consequences of impregnating young girls.





"Many girls need to receive education on comprehensive sexuality education so that they can have a basic knowledge of sexual and reproductive health, leading to a reduction in unintended pregnancies," she addressed regarding sex education.

She called on the Government and development partners to revamp family planning financing as a way of reducing over-reliance on donors."







Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage

WELCOME TO THE 96TH EDITION OF THE

# KENYA MUSIC AND CULTURAL FESTIVAL (KMCF)

**1st - 9th  
Dec, 2023**

**Gala: 9th December 2023**

**Theme: Our Culture:  
Towards National Cohesion,  
Integration and Peace.**

**Utamaduni Wetu: Kueneza Uwiano wa Kitaifa, Utangamano na Amani.**

**Venue:**

**Wote Technical Training Institute (WTTI),  
Wote, MAKUENI.**





1

AGRICULTURE,  
IRRIGATION, LIVESTOCK  
FISHERIES AND  
COOPERATIVE  
DEVELOPMENT



## Makueni Juice Ready for the Market

Makueni juice will soon be available in a shop near you.

The Makueni Fruit Processing Plant has received certification from the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) to put the ready-to-drink sweeteners on shelves.

Certification from KEBS means that the plant has met the necessary standards and requirements for production, packaging, and labeling.

Makueni Fruit Processing Plant is a flagship project of the county government of Makueni which aims at cushioning mango farmers from post-harvest losses and exploitation by profiteering middlemen.

The plant processed 1000 tonnes of mango in the January to March 2023 season and produced 500 tonnes of puree.



*(Kalamba Fruit Processing Plant)*



## Makueni Coffee Farmers Receive Sh 4.7 Million Worth of Cherry Fund to Enhance Coffee Production



At least 1000 coffee farmers from Kikima Farmers' Cooperative Society received Sh. 4.7 Million worth of cherry Fund to boost coffee production and profitability.

The cherry fund is one of the areas of collaboration between the county government of Makueni and the New Kenya Planters Co-operative Union (New KPCU) to revamp the coffee sector in Makueni.

The funds are being used by the farmers to adopt modern and sustainable farming practices. This includes investing in better seeds, fertilizers, and pest control methods to increase coffee yields.

During the release of the fund on 7th September 2023, farmers were sensitized on best agriculture practices for maximum coffee profitability. A model coffee farm for demonstration was also launched.







## Makueni Tapping into International Markets for Hass Avocado

Makueni County Government is closely working with farmers to adopt Hass avocado for improved livelihoods.

Numbers show that Hass avocado has a huge international market. According to the Horticultural Crops Directorate (HCD),

Kenya's revenue from the avocado export was Sh. 14.5 billion in 2020 and in 2021, it stood at Sh. 14.4 billion.

The county, during the 2022/2023 financial year, distributed 20,000 scions of the Hass avocado variety to farmers in Ukia ward to improve their already established orchards and seedlings. The selection of Hass avocado is a good choice as it is a popular and profitable variety.

It's a strategic move by the government to focus on Ukia ward as it is already a leading ward in avocado production in Makueni.

Alongside scion distribution, the county government is providing continuous training and support to farmers on best practices for avocado cultivation, pest and disease management, and post-harvest handling, vital for the success of the program.

To ensure that farmers have access to markets both domestically and internationally, the county government is working on Cooperative efforts to help farmers maximize their profits.





## Ongoing Projects to Irrigate 600 Acres

Ongoing projects will put 600 acres of land under irrigation in Makueni.

The county government of Makueni and Small-Scale Irrigation and Value Addition (SIVAP) have established 11 micro-irrigation schemes and a further two large ones.

Once complete, the irrigation schemes will benefit over 6,000 households by providing a stable water supply for irrigated farming hence improving food security and household income.

Targeted crops for establishment include, Spinach, Kales, Cabbage, Green maize and fruit trees.

### Micro-irrigation schemes

- Katithi
- Usai
- Winzeni
- Kikwasuni
- Yandia
- Kalamba II
- Matikoni B
- Kiaoni
- Kanini Kaseo
- Mbukani
- Kikome

### Large-scale irrigation schemes

- Utangwa (Mbooni)
- Kyeemwea (Kaiti)





## 50 Farmers Produce KS20 Green Grams Seed

The Department of Agriculture has partnered with 50 farmers from 16 wards to produce KS20 green grams seed to meet the huge market demand.

The certified green gram seed requirement for Makueni County stands at 903,352 kg against a supply of 361,340.8 kg. The low access to certified seeds causes farmers to plant their own seed (uncertified) leading to poor production and hence food insecurity.

The 50 farmers were supported with ripping services, training on seed production, provided with basic seeds, fertilizer, herbicides, insecticides, fungicides, jute bags and inspection services. The farmers produced 21 Metric Tons in the October – December 2022 rain season. Plans are underway to upscale this production.



## Satellite Cereals Stores Established to Ease Access to Subsidized Fertilizers



Makueni has partnered with the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) to establish satellite stores in Mukuyuni and Kikima to ease access to subsidized fertilizer and certified seeds.

In addition, the county government entered into an MOU with the NCPB to offtake cereals from Makueni County as part of the strategic reserves.



## Over 600 Farmers Benefit from Kilombo Dam



650 households from Kiima-Kiu /Kalanzonei Ward are now beneficiaries of Kilombo earth dam, reaping hundreds of thousands from irrigated farming.

David Mutua is one of the beneficiaries and plants kales, tomatoes and onions using water drawn from the dam, whose capacity is 315, 000 Cubic Meters.



Kilombo dam was rehabilitated by the National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP) in partnership with Makueni County Government at a cost of Sh 87 Million. The rehabilitation entailed the repair of the embankment, desilting and auxiliary works.

According to Mutua, before the rehabilitation of the dam, the neighboring community faced an acute shortage of water for domestic use and used to walk many miles in search of the rare commodity.



## Makueni Hosts First Mango Conference to Enhance Market Access



Makueni held the first national mango conference in May 2023 which attracted 1250 delegates from 22 counties to explore strategies and solutions to enhance market access for Kenyan mangoes and strengthen the entire value chain.



Following the conference, the county developed a mango value chain strategy and implementation plan which includes the establishment of a low pest zone and mango pack house to facilitate export.

### Makueni Donates Solar Mango Drier to Kibwezi Women Group

The sky is now the limit for Huruma Women Group, a vibrant group of entrepreneurs in Kibwezi Town, after receiving a Hybrid Solar-Biomass Mango drier unit from the Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme Phase Two (ASDSP II).

The program which is supported by the Makueni County government is designed to boost their daily processing capacity.

The group adds value to horticultural produce such as vegetables and fruits for export through drying them and is now calling upon local farmers to take up full-time agricultural activities especially indigenous foods and vegetables, as their outfit is a ready market and locally accessible





M-PES

2

HEALTH  
SERVICES



## Mother and Child Hospital Unveiled at Tawa

Over 15,000 residents from Mbooni East, are now benefiting from improved health services following the commissioning of Tawa Sub County Hospital maternal and child health unit.

The Sh. 27 Million unit was built by Safaricom M-Pesa Foundation and equipped by the County Government of Makueni at a cost of Sh. 4.8 Million.

The facility has brought maternal and neo-natal services closer to residents of Mbooni Sub-County and a reduction in maternal and child mortality.

The newly constructed wing boasts a capacity of:



25 beds with a general ward



25 beds with a general ward



5 modern incubators



15 pediatric beds



## Makueni Invests Sh. 109 Million on Medical Supplies



Makueni has invested Sh. 109 Million to equip her 238 health facilities with medical supplies and non-pharmaceutical commodities for the 1st quarter of 2023/2024 financial year.

This is meant to ensure that health facilities are adequately stocked with essential medicines for quality health services



## Makueni Leverages on Technology for Obstetric Safe Surgeries

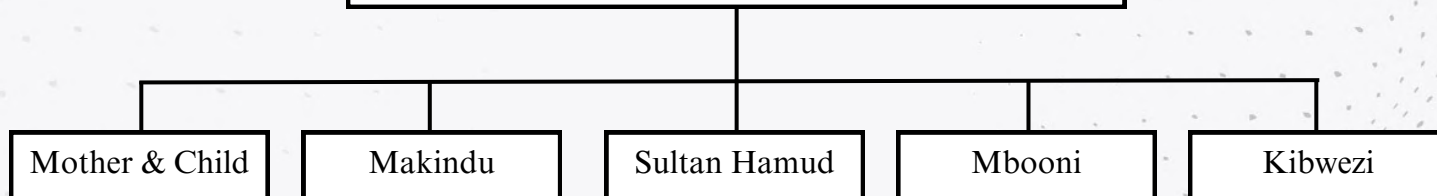


Makueni has partnered with Jhpiego to roll out a cutting-edge technology in offering obstetric safe surgeries at the Mother and Child Hospital in Wote.

Proximie is a remote surgical collaboration platform that empowers clinicians to virtually and remotely interact with each other in a live environment. This technology also facilitates proactive peer-to-peer learning and promotes the sharing of surgical expertise before, during and after surgery.



This network has been used to connect five hospitals



The technology will improve the obstetric surgical care for women in the county as well supporting the county's commitment to provide all women with dignity in childbirth and reduce maternal and newborn deaths and obstetric-related complications.



## Thousands of Eye Patients Benefit from Free Eye Consultation & Cataract Surgeries.



At least 278 residents from Makueni, mostly the aged, underwent eye cataract surgeries at Makindu Sub-County hospital and their eye sight restored.

Eye cataract is a medical condition where the eye lens becomes progressively opaque, resulting in blurred vision or blindness.

These surgeries were supported by Australia-based Fred Hollows Foundation and Kenya Society for the Blind who also donated eye care equipment to mainstream eye health in Makueni's health system.



## Makueni County Transforms Healthcare with Automated Systems

Makueni County has successfully automated her health systems and processes to enhance efficiency, accountability, transparency and the overall performance of the healthcare system.

The automation process, which has been piloted in the management of health products, including pharmaceuticals and non-pharmaceuticals, as well as revenue collection, is now fully operational in all level 4 hospitals and the county referral facility.



The automation is supported by Maisha Meds - a digital health platform that connects patients and health care providers through free reliable online system that works even in the most remote areas.

This comprehensive approach is expected to revolutionize the collection and utilization of data, which is paramount for evidence-based decision-making and research within the health sector.

The increase in revenue has allowed the management to closely monitor the funds collected by each hospital.



## **23 Women Triumph Over Fistula Through Successful Surgeries at Mother and Child Hospital**

23 women from Makueni have emerged victorious in their battle against fistula thanks to successful corrective surgeries performed at the Mother and Child Hospital. This milestone was made possible through a collaborative effort between Makueni County and Jhpiego, an international non-profit organization dedicated to improving healthcare services.



Fistula, a devastating childbirth injury that can lead to social isolation and severe health complications, has long plagued women in the region. In a bid to address this pressing issue, Makueni County embarked on an ambitious mission to screen and provide treatment to women suffering from fistula.

The cornerstone of this initiative was a 6-week rigorous training of medical personnel from the Makueni County Health Services Department by Gynocare Centre in Eldoret on the intricacies of fistula corrective surgeries.







3

## WATER AND SANITATION







### 37 Water Projects Commissioned to Ease Water Access

The water department on September 22, 2023 commissioned 37 complete water projects to bring quality potable water closer to the people.

Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jnr dispatched his entire cabinet to commission the projects in all the six sub-counties, in a move aimed at reducing the distance to the nearest water source to less than two kms.

The commissioned projects are among 54 completed within the first year of Governor Mutula's administration in 2022-2023 Financial Year.





## **Makueni Draws Ambitious 5-year Water Development Plan**

Makueni County has for years-on-end struggled to reach water sufficiency for her more than a million residents.

In his development blueprint, Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jnr described the water situation as a disaster which must be tackled decisively.

“When we came to leadership, we discovered that there is an extreme water deficiency to the extent that it is nearly a disaster!” said the governor. “Even the county headquarter is suffering from proper sanitation. Therefore, the first thing we have to tackle decisively is water provision.” He further says.

To ease the water access burden bedeviling the county, the department of water has formulated an ambitious water master plan which will ensure every corner of the county is water secure.

This entails:

1. Drilling and equipping/ Rehabilitation of 449 boreholes
2. Construction of 367 Earth dams (small, medium and Mega dams)
3. Construction of 32 Rock catchments
4. Construction of 210 sand dams
5. Protection and abstraction of 63 water springs
6. Construction of 196 shallow wells
7. Construction of 163 water pans
8. Protection and abstraction of 55 water rivers and streams
9. Development of Makueni county water policy, Act and Regulations, Establishment of Makueni County Water Fund and Makueni Rural Water Board
10. Solarization of water projects and connection to KPLC Grid to enhance 24-hour service delivery
11. Construction of 200 masonry water tanks, installation of 500 plastic tanks with 800 water kiosks and 200 water points
12. Installation of 1500 kms of water distribution pipelines



## County Government, Water Stakeholders partner to enhance Water Access

The department of Water and Sanitation has brought all players interested in water provision in Makueni under one umbrella to roll out their projects and programs from a common approach.

Dubbed Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) forum, this aims at bringing different players together for information sharing regarding water projects done, those in the pipeline, and challenges faced in undertaking water provision.

According to Chief Officer Eng. David Makau, this will also help in reducing duplication, accurate data sharing, enhancing proper governance and strengthening partnerships in water provision by the different organizations.





# 4

## LANDS, URBAN PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE







## Copper, Manganese, Iron Ore Discovered in Makueni

A geological survey conducted by the national government has discovered deposits of Copper, Iron ore, Manganese and Graphite in Makueni.

Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs Cabinet Secretary Salim Mvurya revealed this discovery when he toured Kyunyu village, Kathonzweni Ward, one of the areas cited as copper-rich on September 13th, 2023.

Mvurya, who was accompanied by Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jnr said geological experts from the ministry would conduct a ground truthing exercise to verify the mineralization patterns and commercial value of the minerals for exploitation.

This discovery puts Makueni and Kenya on a firm pedestal for economic growth, and a diversification from dependence on agriculture as the key economic driver.



## Makueni Plants 137,000 Trees to Combat Desertification



In furtherance of President William Ruto's call to plant 15B trees by 2032 to restore forest cover and tackle effects of climate change, Makueni's forestry unit spearheaded planting of 137,000 tree seedlings across the county. This was done in collaboration with various environmental champions and partners in the past one year.





## 900 Residents Trained on Climate Resilience Building



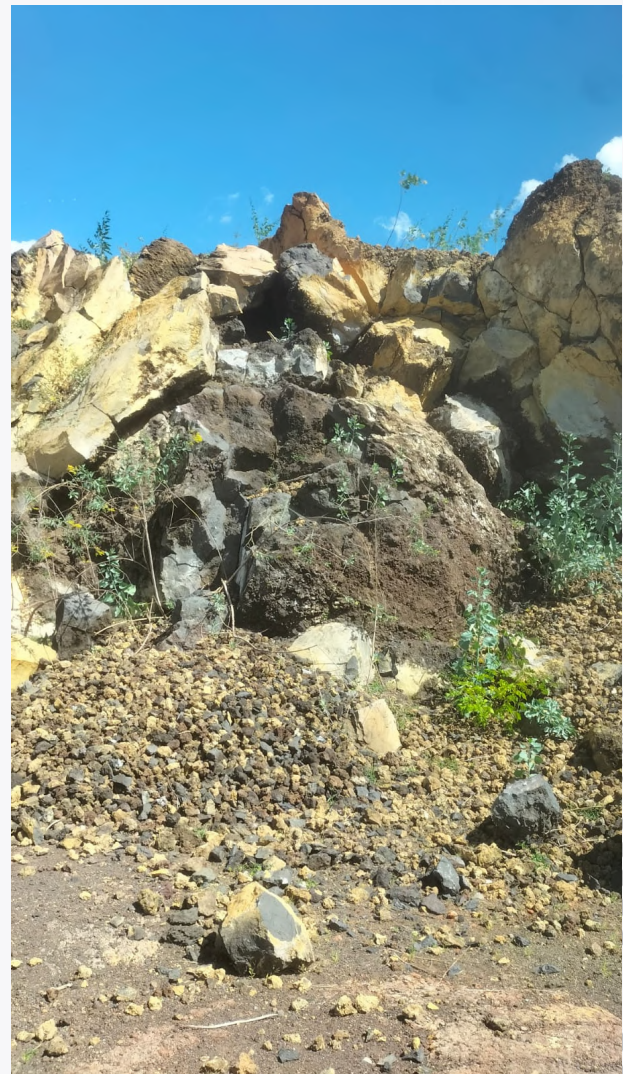
The climate change unit has in the past one year trained 900 community members on climate risk assessment and identification of Locally-led Climate actions for resilience building in the 30 wards. These members form Ward Climate Change Committees which implement climate actions funded under Financing Locally Led Climate Actions (FLLoCA) programme by the World Bank.



## Four Million Tonnes of Basalt Discovered in Kibwezi

A geophysical survey conducted by the directorate of mining to determine the commercial value of basalt rock deposits in Kibwezi-East established existence of 4.4 Million metric tons of the basalt reserves.

According to a consultant report, these deposits are enough to last 954 years of continuous mining at 250 metric tons per hour. This presents the county government a huge investment opportunity in the construction industry and creation of thousands of jobs for young people.





## Wote, Kikima, Nunguni Plot Owners Set to Get Allotment Letters

Plot owners in Wote, Kikima and Nunguni towns are set to get allotment letters after conclusion of plot verification exercise by the Department of Lands and Urban Planning with support from the National Land Commission (NLC). In Kikima, 206 parcels were verified and 104 in Nunguni.

In Wote town, the Directorate of Lands finalized the township perimeter boundary survey which has already been approved by the National Director of Surveys.



## Wote Town Now A 24-Hr Economy

Wote town is now a 24-hr economy business hub courtesy of 40 high-mast flood lights and improved link roads undertaken by Wote Municipality. The county capital is a buzzing hive of activity especially in the construction industry denoting its investment attractiveness.





## Mukuyuni Modern Market Tipped to Spur Trade, Horticulture

Mukuyuni modern mixed-use market, one of Makueni's largest trade and aggregation centers at Mukuyuni market is now complete.

The centre, done by the Wote Municipality with support from Word Bank has space for over 150 traders in the town. Equipped with a cold room and solar power, this flagship project is tipped to revolutionize trade and horticultural farming in the area.





## **Makindu Residents Give Nod to Draft Town Plan**

Makindu town residents have given a thumbs up to a draft town plan prepared by the Department of Lands and Urban Planning and presented to them for validation on 23rd August, 2023 at Makindu Social Hall.

The Planning exercise was commissioned in April by Lands Executive Committee Member Dr Sonia Nzilani in a bid to regularize land ownership as well as restore and protect public land and key installations from marauding cartels.

The last known town plan for Makindu was done 45 years ago (in 1978). This has slammed brakes on its growth with land ownership wrangles and land grabbing being the order of day.

The plan awaits county assembly approval and assent to by the governor before implementation.

## **Makueni Goes Digital in Land Information Management**

Makueni County has fully digitized her land transactions through the launch of Makueni Land Information Management System (LIMS) portal.

This portal allows the department of lands to register all plot owners and track payment of land rent and rates on real time basis.

Once plot owners are registered, they will be able to pay dues at the comfort of their lives without the need to visit county revenue offices.

According to Chief Officer for Lands and Urban Planning Jackson Daudi, this system has enhanced transparency and efficiency in land management and also increased own source revenue collection in leaps and bounds.





5

DEVOLUTION



## School for Devolution and Community Led Development

Makueni County opened doors to one of its kind community-led development (CLD) school and the first in Africa at Wote.

The school facilitates a platform for enhancing devolution capacities, localization of SDGs and consultations for quality implementation of devolved functions.

It seeks to train citizens, community leaders, civil society professionals, and government officials from across the county and the country at large to ensure that every person has a voice in decisions that affect their lives.

Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jnr signed an MoU with Vice President and co-founder of the Movement for Community Led Development John Coonrod, to strengthen collaboration in fundraising for county development initiatives, capacity strengthening of county departments on proposal writing among other key areas.



The centre is also a devolution knowledge hub that facilitates research, repository for sharing County's devolution solutions, innovations and best practices in devolved service delivery alongside other devolution related knowledge assets.

## Makueni's Emergency Response Gets a Boost with New RTA Vehicle

The county received a Road Traffic Accident (RTA) response vehicle as a result of a partnership with Polish Center for International Aid. This is a major boost to the emergency response team in saving lives and property. The personnel handling the vehicle also received training on road traffic techniques and basic life support skills.



The RTA response vehicle - an ambulance by design and the first one in Kenya carries enough RTA extrication and rescue equipment, 2 hydraulic pumps, a hydraulic cutter, a ram and spreader, trauma bags, four parts extension ladders, and a stretcher among others.





Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jnr exuded confidence that rescue operations along the Mombasa-Nairobi highway will significantly be done through the vehicle which will be stationed at Makindu town.

In the month of November 2022, the county fire and rescue brigade was feted as the best nationally, beating other 22 counties, parastatals and other entities. This was during a fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) competition held at Kenya Airport Authority Training School, Nairobi.









## Makueni Holds First Pass Out Parade for Enforcement Officers

48 county enforcement officers in June this year graduated from a rigorous 4-week training on first aid, self-defense, customer service, and public relations other skills.

This training was meant to equip the officers with skills to ensure effective compliance with and enforcement of the county laws and regulations.

Governor Mutula Kilonzo Jnr who presided over the pass out parade urged the officers to observe integrity and honesty in their duties.







**WHAT IS AJIRY?**  
It is a youth empowerment programme through job placement, training and mentorship.

**HOW TO SIGN UP**  
Log on to [www.ajiry.com](http://www.ajiry.com), click on 'register', fill all the details and upload your CV.

**TO FIND JOBS**  
Click on 'I want to work' type the post and click search.

**TO HIRE QUALIFIED PERSONNEL**  
Enter the location, the post and click on 'I want to Hire'.

**TO ADVERTISE YOUR HUSTLE**  
Click on 'My hustle' tab, click 'Submit hustle' fill all the required information and submit.



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 [www.ajiry.com](http://www.ajiry.com)

 Makueni Public Green Park, on Wote Mwaani Road




**Makueni Ajiry Centre also has a recording studio for music, podcasts and Dj classes.**







The Department of ICT, Education, and Internship, has implemented a series of innovative projects geared towards achieving the governor's manifesto and imprinting an indelible mark in the transformation of the citizenry livelihoods and that of all Kenyans. The Department of ICT, Education, and Internship, has implemented a series of innovative projects geared towards achieving the governor's manifesto and imprinting an indelible mark in the transformation of the citizenry livelihoods and that of all Kenyans.

#### **i. MyCounty App Launch**

One of the department's transformative achievements is the adoption of myCounty App through a partnership with telecommunications giant Safaricom. The App was launched on April 26, 2023

The App provides a unified platform for revenue collection and digitization of all county government's operations and services where residents can access them from any part of the world.



Citizens can now conveniently access and pay for county services such as parking fees, business permits, and property rates. Through a dedicated citizen engagement channel and an online radio channel, residents can also engage with the leadership and specifically with the governor on “Sema na Mutula” space available in the App. The county government has made a significant improvement in revenue collection thanks to the App.

#### **ii. Revenue System Enhancement**

Makueni County has ushered in a new era of revenue collection and financial stability through a series of strategic initiatives led by the directorate of ICT. The introduction of multiple electronic cashless payment channels, including USSD payments, Paybill numbers, STK Push, and a self-service portal, has redefined the manner in which revenue is collected and managed.

The impact of this innovation has been nothing short of remarkable, with profound implications for revenue enhancement and accountability. The integration of these electronic cashless self-service platforms, covering services such as Ada za soko, land and business permits, has resulted in a remarkable increase in own-source revenue.



### **iii. Community Information Centers – Training & Capacity Building**

Since July 2022, 958 individuals have successfully graduated from various ICT courses at Makueni County's 14 Community Information Centers (CICs), marking a significant milestone in digital empowerment. These centers have not only facilitated increased accessibility to County Government services but have also led to rising youth employment within the digital economy. Beyond technical skills, CICs offer competency training, promoting personal development and entrepreneurship. This achievement underscores the County's dedication to enhancing digital literacy and empowering its residents, resulting in individual success and overall progress within the community.

### **iv. Makueni Tech - Innovation Hub**

Makueni County takes immense pride in its award-winning Makueni Tech & Innovation Hub, honored with the prestigious National Innovation Award as the "COUNTY GOVERNMENT INNOVATION HUB OF THE YEAR 2022." This hub is not merely a physical space for entrepreneurs and programmers; it serves as a dynamic catalyst for addressing innovation challenges on both local and global scales. Beyond providing a haven for innovators, the Makueni Tech & Innovation Hub actively engages in solving periodic innovation challenges, positioning itself as a key player in fostering innovation

both within the local community and on the broader global stage.

### **v. Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization**

Makueni County's commitment to digital literacy, personal development, and entrepreneurship was exemplified this year through the establishment of the Ajiry Center and a strategic partnership with Camara Education Kenya. The Ajiry Center has been serving as a hub for digital literacy training, equipping residents with essential digital skills for the modern age. Within the center, a state-of-the-art music-recording studio fosters artistic expression and talent development.

Moreover, competency-training programs within the Ajiry Center enhance personal development and entrepreneurial skills, contributing to the growth of the digital economy. Online job placements facilitated by the center create employment opportunities for Makueni's youth.

In collaboration with Camara Education Kenya, Makueni County has extended support to three County Technical Training Institutes, including the Makueni PWD Vocational Training Centre and Kathonzweni CTTI, providing them with 26 computers and a structured Local Area Network (LAN) to enhance technical education. Additionally, the Makueni PWD Center has received similar support



promoting a conducive learning environment. These strategic initiatives underscore Makueni County's dedication to empowering its residents, fostering inclusivity, and advancing the skills and opportunities available to its citizens.

**vi. Ministry of Information Communication Technology & Technology & Digital Economy**

Under the leadership of H.E the Governor, the Department of ICT Education and Internship has established a significant collaboration with the Ministry of Information Communication Technology & Digital Economy (MoICT&DE). This partnership materialized during a productive meeting with MoICT&DE's Permanent Secretary, Eng. John Tanui, where they deliberated on crucial areas of collaboration in implementing the National Government's ICT Master Plan for 2022-2032. The discussions revolved around key priorities, including expanding fiber optic connectivity to ensure widespread high-speed internet access, establishing free digital hotspots to promote digital inclusion, and setting up Village Digital Hubs to empower rural communities with essential digital resources and opportunities. This partnership underscores Makueni County's unwavering commitment to remaining at the forefront of technological advancement and ensuring its residents reap the benefits of the ongoing digital transformation, ultimately fostering a more connected, informed, and empowered society.

**vii. Early Childhood Development Education Directorate**

Under the guidance of the Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) Directorate, Makueni County has embarked on a series of impactful initiatives, including infrastructure development. In the fiscal year 2022/2023, 37 ECDE projects were undertaken, with 27 of them completed and recently commissioned. These projects have been instrumental in enhancing the learning environment for our youngest residents, ensuring they have access to customized facilities that facilitate their education journey.

Additionally, the ECDE Directorate initiated a groundbreaking ECDE Digital Learning Programme. This innovative endeavor witnessed the training of 2,125 ECDE caregivers and the distribution of 2,199 devices to ECDE Centers countywide. The programme's primary objectives include making learning more engaging and memorable while effectively curbing absenteeism among early learners.

Furthermore, the county's commitment to nurturing talents and fostering holistic development was exemplified through its sponsorship of 764 ECDE learners' participation in Kenya music festivals. These students not only excelled at the county level but also shone at the national stage, with 104 of them proceeding to compete on the national level.



During the festival held at Dedan Kimathi University in Nyeri County on August 11th and 12th, 2023, Makueni County's teams demonstrated their exceptional talents, securing top positions in various categories. These activities not only uncover the innate abilities and talents of our learners but also promote interaction among students and provide invaluable learning opportunities.

Lastly, the county's commitment to environmental sustainability was manifested through the planting of trees in ECDE Centers, contributing to climate change mitigation and imparting the importance of environmental conservation from a young age. These multifaceted efforts within the ECDE Directorate underscore Makueni County's dedication to holistic development and ensuring a bright future for its youngest residents.

#### **viii. Support to Education**

Makueni County has been fully committed to bolstering education through various means. In September 2022, the county hosted a prestigious county gala event, recognizing outstanding performances in music festivals and athletics and fostering a culture of excellence among its youth. In a remarkable initiative, the county awarded scholarships to one hundred deserving, bright, and needy Form One students while also supporting ongoing scholarships, ensuring that education remains accessible to all.

Makueni County's dedication to nurturing talent shone through the recognition of drama and spoken word national champion Oscar Brian, of Vulueni Secondary School who will be proceeding to the East Africa Music Festivals and Mwaani Girls Secondary School, showcasing the county's vibrant artistic community. Further, the county celebrated academic excellence by awarding the best student in KCPE from Makueni County with a valuable laptop, encouraging scholastic achievement. In a significant gesture of support, 513 students from four different wards were granted bursaries, easing the financial burden on families and promoting education as a catalyst for personal and societal progress. These diverse efforts underscore Makueni County's unwavering commitment to empowering education, fostering talent, and ensuring that every student has the opportunity to thrive and succeed.





**ix. County Technical Training Institute Directorate**

The County Technical Training Institute Directorate continues to champion technical education in Makueni County. To further expand opportunities, the Mtito Andei Resource Center was operationalized on 8th August 2023. This center not only imparts valuable garment making skills but also houses a Community Information Center (CIC), enhancing access to information and knowledge.

Moreover, the commitment to excellence in vocational training is evident in various institutions. Ngwata CTTI excels in Welding and Motor Vehicle Mechanics, while Kathonanzweni stands out in Carpentry. Kiatingo demonstrates excellence in garment making, and Mwea shines in ICT and beauty. Notably, the Makueni Integrated Vocational Empowerment Centre (MIVEC) excels in Leatherwork and ICT, among other disciplines. These institutions collectively contribute to the holistic development of Makueni County's youth, fostering a skilled and empowered workforce for the future.

**x. Internship, Mentorship & Volunteerism**

The Internship, Mentorship & Volunteerism Directorate has made significant strides in empowering the youth of Makueni County. Notably, the directorate successfully placed more than 100 interns across various departments, providing them with hands-on experience and a platform for skill development. Additionally, it facilitated 558 attachments, further enhancing practical exposure and career prospects for the county's aspiring professionals. These achievements underscore the county's commitment to nurturing talent and fostering a brighter future for its youth.

**xi. IVA System Brief**

The Internship Volunteerism Attachment System (IVAS) represents a significant step in the realm of industrial attachments. It has redefined the conventional approach, empowering students to embrace a more dynamic and personalized learning experience. With IVAS, students can effortlessly create online profiles and securely upload essential documents, all while gaining access to a diverse array of opportunities that resonate with their career aspirations. Moreover, the system ensures a transparent and equitable allocation process, fostering an environment of fairness. Thanks to IVAS, students have the flexibility to meticulously plan their attachment periods, aligning them with their academic and professional goals. Unlock the future of industrial attachments today by visiting [www.makueni.go.ke](http://www.makueni.go.ke).





7

GENDER,  
CHILDREN, YOUTH,  
SPORTS, AND  
SOCIAL SERVICES



The past year under the Mutula Junior administration has witnessed the Department of Gender, Children, Youth, Sports, and Social Services in Makueni County emerge as a beacon of excellence. Guided by the County Executive Committee Member's (CECM's) dedication and alignment with the Governor's manifesto, the department has made significant strides in enhancing the welfare of the county's citizens through impactful programs and initiatives.

### 1. Directorate of Sports

Makueni County's investment in sports development has yielded positive results, engaging the community and nurturing talent. Initiatives like Ligi Mashinani and SUPA CUP tournaments have provided platforms for sports enthusiasts, while the county's impressive performance in the KYISA Games showcased the depth of talent and dedication within the county.



### 2. Media Coverage and Support for Persons with Disabilities

The department's commitment to inclusivity was highlighted through media coverage of sporting victories and the facilitation of trade donations for persons with disabilities (PWDs). This empowering initiative underscores the department's dedication to providing equal opportunities for all members of the community.

### 3. Youth Development Agenda

Under the dynamic leadership of CECM Nicholas Masila Nzioka, Makueni County has made significant progress in youth development. By identifying 15 sectors relevant to the youth, the department has initiated programs targeting skill development, capacity building, and empowerment. The Makueni Youth Apprenticeship Program (MYAP) has notably been instrumental in equipping young individuals with practical skills and preparing them for the job market.





**4. Social Protection and Support Programs** Makueni County's comprehensive social protection programs, including the Tetheka Fund, exemplify the county's commitment to addressing poverty and vulnerability. The department's multifaceted approach ensures the well-being of vulnerable groups such as the elderly and children, reflecting the county's dedication to a holistic and inclusive society.







8

FINANCE



### 1. County Statistical Abstract 2022 (CSA)

The Governor launched the County Statistical Abstract(CSA) 2022 and the inaugural Ward Statistical Profiles at Wote in December 2022. The abstract provides time series data on all sectors of the economy at the county level.

While launching the CSA, the governor said his administration will formulate a resource allocation criterion similar to the one used by the Commission on Revenue Allocation(CRA) to promote equity and address the unique needs of each ward.

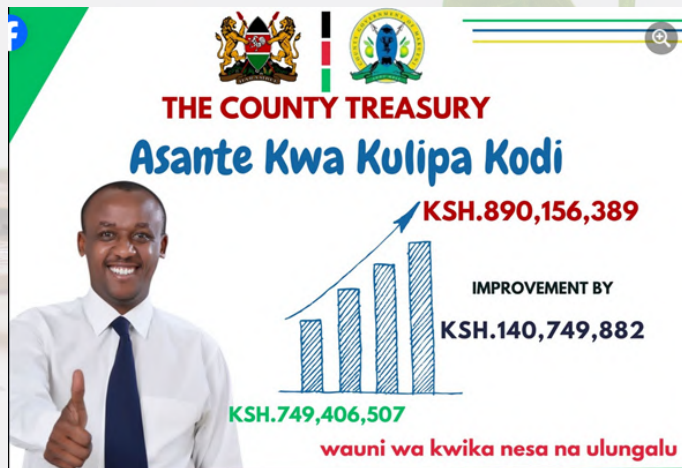


### 2. 2023-27 County Integrated Development Plan(CIDP)

The Department facilitated participation of development partners, citizens towards preparation of the third County Integrated Development Plan, 2023-27.

### 3. Own Source Revenue Performance

Makueni County Own Source Revenue increased by 371% from **KShs 189,188,041** collected in FY 2013/14 to KShs 891,595,986 collected in FY 2022/23.

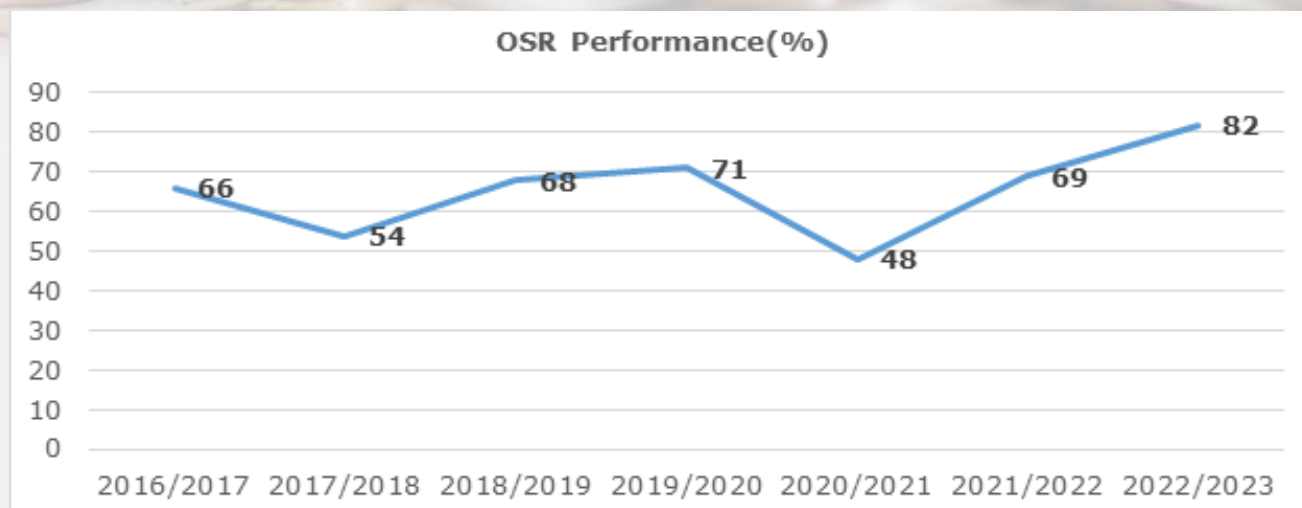


The total County revenue realized for the year was Kshs. 10,368,887,601 against a target of Kshs. 10,764,741,885. This represents performance of 97 percent. Receipts from own source revenues were Kshs. 891,595,986 (82 percent).

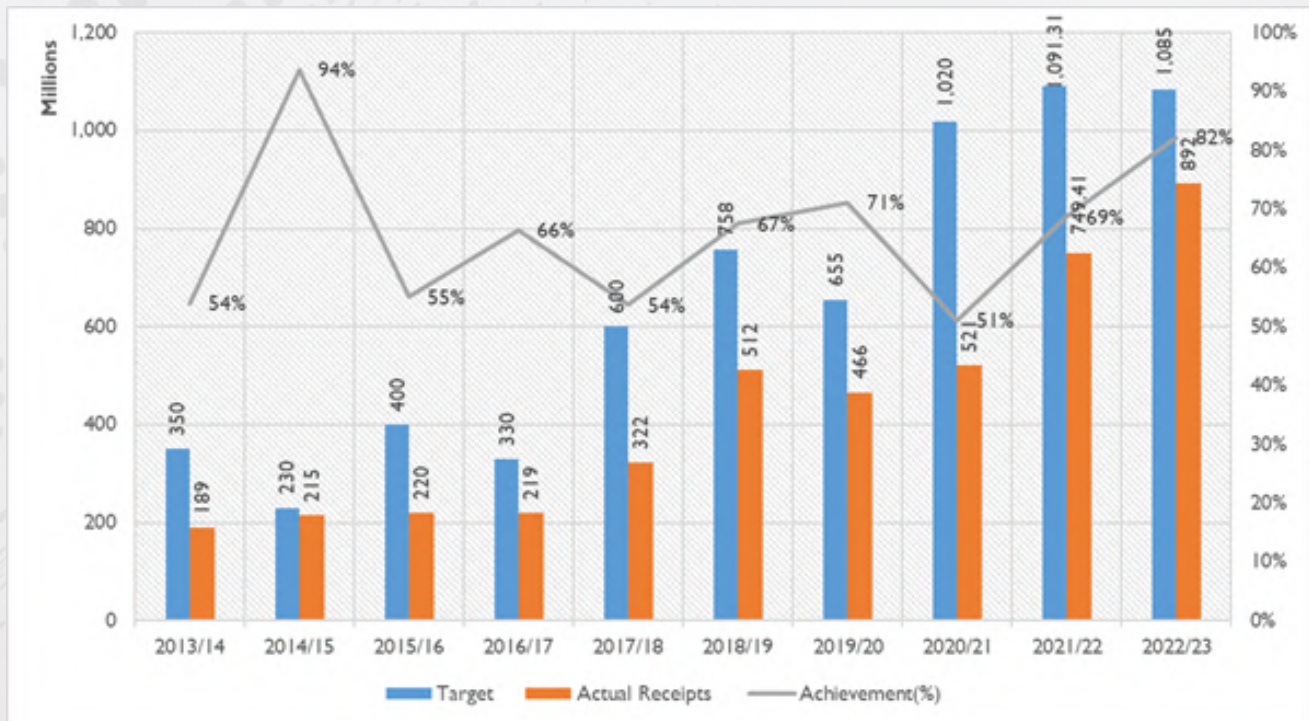


| No           | Stream /Category        | FY 2022/23 Annual Target | Performance as at 30th June 2023 | Performance rate (%) |
|--------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1            | Own source revenue      | 1,085,000,000            | 891,595,986                      | 82%                  |
| 2            | Equitable share         | 8,132,783,562            | 8,132,783,562                    | 100%                 |
| 3            | Loans and grants        | 443,890,645              | 330,376,875                      | 74%                  |
| 4            | FY 2021/22 Reallocation | 1,103,067,678            | 1,103,067,678                    | 100%                 |
| <b>Total</b> |                         | <b>10,764,741,885</b>    | <b>10,368,887,601</b>            | <b>97%</b>           |

*The OSR performance is the highest since the inception of the county government as shown in figure below;*







### Strategies employed by the county government to increase Own Source Revenue (OSR)

1. Automation of revenue collection
2. Sensitization and adoption of cashless modes of payment,
3. Strategic county investments such as health facilities and the fruit processing plant which generate quite a huge chunk of the revenue
4. Waiver on penalties and fines on land rates
5. Collective efforts on Rapid Results Initiatives (RRI) to enforce and collect more revenue
6. Recruitment of more revenue officers
7. Recovery from the negative effects of COVID 19 pandemic

### 4. Cashless System Of Revenue Collection

The CECM-Finance, Damaris Kavoi and other finance officials carried out a day-long exercise sensitizing Wote business community on the move to digitizing the Revenue Collection exercise across the county. The exercise aims at easing the operations which include; the time taken to process business permits, and cashless parking fee payment methods, among others.





## 5. Expenditure Performance

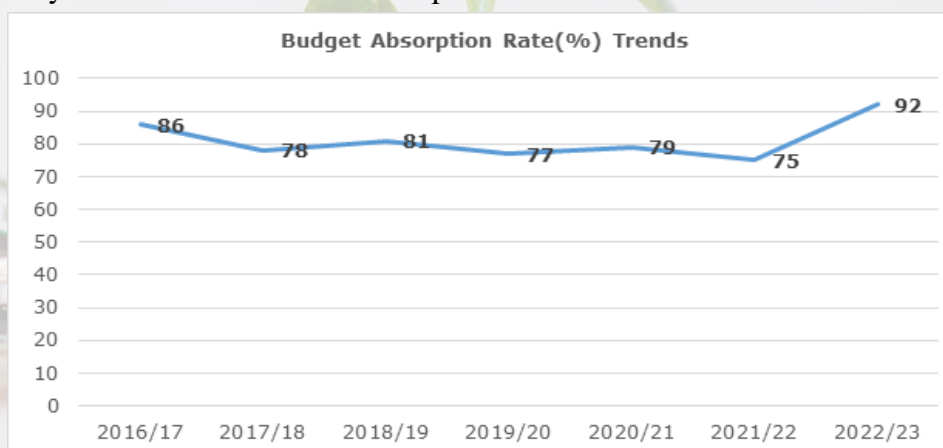
### a) Overall Expenditure Summary per Economic Classification

The approved budget for the year was Kshs 10,764,741,885 comprising of recurrent budget of Kshs 7,485,986,556.21 and development of Kshs. 3,278,755,329.29. The total expenditure for the year was Kshs. 9,899,215,806 which represents 92 percent absorption. The County executive expenditure was Kshs 8,964,113,834 and County assembly expenditure was Kshs. 935,101,972.

| No | Economic Item           | FY 2022/23<br>Revised Budget (2)<br>Estimates | Expenditures as<br>at Jun 30, 2023 | Absorption<br>Rate (%) |
|----|-------------------------|---|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1  | Personnel Emoluments    | 4,067,217,931                                 | 4,054,282,688                      | 99.7%                  |
| 2  | Operation & Maintenance | 2,503,227,310                                 | 2,453,542,363                      | 98.0%                  |
|    | <b>Recurrent</b>        | <b>6,570,445,240</b>                          | <b>6,507,825,051</b>               | <b>99.0%</b>           |
| 3  | Development             | 3,238,521,517                                 | 2,456,288,783                      | 75.8%                  |
|    | <b>Total Executive</b>  | <b>9,808,966,758</b>                          | <b>8,964,113,834</b>               | <b>91.4%</b>           |
| 4  | County Assembly         | 955,775,128                                   | 935,101,972                        | 97.8%                  |
|    | <b>Total Budget</b>     | <b>10,764,741,885</b>                         | <b>9,899,215,806</b>               | <b>92%</b>             |

### b) Absorption Capacity

The County Government absorption for the year was 92 percent. This was the highest since the inception of the County Government and demonstrated the County Government improved ability to absorb funds for development and recurrent activities.



## 6. FY 2023/24 Budget Public Participation Process

The process of participation towards the budget process helped to identify the county development priorities for the FY 2023/24. Public participation helps in alleviating social conflicts by bringing different stakeholders and interest groups.

Public engagement fora at sub-wards were held on 30th-31st March 2023 while ward level participation was held on 5th April 2023.



### **7. Diaspora Public participation on FY 2023/24 Budget**

The public participation allows local people of the county but living outside the county to provide inputs and proposals on development projects and programmes in their areas or origin. It also helps the professionals in diaspora to take part in the implementation by being part of project management committees and then manage them once they are commissioned. The diaspora participation happened in Nairobi and Mombasa on 18th April 2023.

### **8. Commissioning of the County Census of Business Establishment 2023**

The County Census of Business Establishments(CBE) was carried out from June-August 2023 in which more than 30,000 businesses were enumerated. The census sought to support realistic revenue targets by providing evidence on number, type and size of business establishments in the county. Further CBE aimed to entrench evidence based decision making such as Revenue Potential analysis, guide strategies to optimize OSR collection and inform policy formulation on OSR.

### **9. Training of The County Budget and Economic Forum(CBEF) Members**

The induction workshop for the newly appointed CBEF Members was organized by the Department of Finance and Socio-Economic planning in collaboration with the

Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA). The training was meant to equip the new members of their role in county planning and development as they start the five-year journey as the People's think tanks during the budgeting process.

### **10. Makueni County Budget and Economic Forum (CBEF) adopted and approved the county budget for the FY2023/24 on 28th April 2023**

The Government of Makueni County in 2023/24 FY Budget focuses on targeted agricultural value chains development, provision of water to the citizens, affordable and quality health care, trade development and industrialization, quality urban infrastructure within the two municipalities.

### **11. Kenya Revenue Authority Award**

Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) led by Margaret Nyamai, Chief Manager, Public Sector division, appreciated the efforts by Makueni for her compliance in remitting tax payments .

In the next Financial Year 2024/25, KRA plans to open a branch in Makueni to reduce the long distance that the citizens travel to Machakos offices as well as improve on service delivery to the customers and citizens. and for filing returns on time.



### **12. 2022 County Budget Transparency Survey (CBTS) Award on 30th May 2023**

Makueni County emerged as the second best county with the most transparent budget according to the 2022 County Budget Transparency Survey (CBTS) which is carried out annually International Budget Partnership Kenya (IBPKenya)

### **13. KIPPRA award 23rd June 2023**

The county government was also vetted and awarded by KIPPRA for being the leading county in publishing policy documents in its website in efforts to improve on openness and transparency.

### **14. Sustainable Development Goals Award on 4th December 2023.**

Makueni County was awarded for being the best county in the implementation of programmes and projects that were in line with the SDGs. The award was given by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Kenya Forum for Sustainable Development. The Sustainable Development Goals and targets seek to empower all citizens and are integrated in the three dimensions of sustainable development; the economic, social and environmental.

### **15. CRA County crediworthiness initiative credit working**

Makueni county is one of the seven counties that had been credit rated for borrowing through the County Creditworthiness

Initiative, which aims to get counties rated for purposes of accessing credit financing. "If borrowing is well managed it can unlock the potential of devolved governance in Kenya" - CEO, James Katule.

The initiative aims at building the capacity of county governments to access long-term development financing from the capital markets to fund capital intensive infrastructure growth, which would otherwise have take years to achieve through the equitable revenue share financing.

### **16. Commission on Revenue Allocation(CRA) Visit to Makueni County**

The Commission on Revenue Allocation, CRA, assesses the impact of devolution to service delivery since inception of devolution across the 47 counties. The Commission visited various projects fully funded by the Makueni county government across subcounties to determine the extent service delivery has impacted the citizens in the County.

The team led by Commissioner Hadija Juma and the CEO James Katule held wide discussions with the Governor, CECs to discuss the impact across education, health, urban planning, roads, agriculture and water.





9

INFRASTRUCTURE,  
ROADS, PUBLIC  
WORKS AND  
ENERGY



In the fabric of modern society, there are institutions that silently coordinate the work of our daily lives, shaping the way we move, the spaces we inhabit, and the energy that fuels our progress. These institutions are the custodians of our infrastructure, the architects of our transportation systems, and the guardians of our energy resources. In the heart of this complex connection, we find the Department of Transport, Public Works, and Energy.

This Department embarks on a journey to unveil the hidden but pivotal role played by this multifaceted government department. As we examine into its inner workings, we aim to brighten the mechanisms that power our communities, sustain our economies, and pave the way for a sustainable future.

The Department of Transport, Public Works, and Energy is entrusted with an array of responsibilities that touch the very essence of our daily existence. Some of its mandate encompasses:

**Transportation:** Overseeing the networks that connect people and goods, from the roads we travel to the skies we traverse and the waters we navigate.

**Public Works:** Guiding the construction and maintenance of the physical infrastructure that forms the backbone of our communities, from bridges to buildings.

**Energy:** Shaping the policies and practices that harness and distribute the energy resources that power our industries, homes, and innovations.



*Kako-Kandulyu Drift - 100M\*6M IN Mbooni Sub-County*





*Ngwani River Drift (Ongoing)- 120M\*6M Mbooni Sub-County*



*Mechanical opening and grading works along Mituvu-Kandulyu-Ngovu road in Kako-Waia ward -7.2kms*



*Kanyililya drift slab at Nguu/Masumba Kibwezi West*





# 10

TRADE,  
MARKETING,  
INDUSTRY, CULTURE  
AND TOURISM



## Market Development

The Government of Makueni County has embarked on strengthening physical infrastructure as critical for driving economic growth, increasing market accessibility, and creating a conducive environment for business expansion by constructing and maintaining over 50 market sheds across the county. Market development with respect to physical infrastructure is a strategic effort in improving and enhancing the physical market facilities and systems that support economic activities and trade within Makueni County. Physical infrastructure includes tangible assets such as fresh produce wholesale markets at Emali and Mukuyuni markets.

For instance;

### ***MAKUENI BUSINESS CENTRE-EMALI***

- A modern market serving hundreds of small-scale traders with the following attributes:
- 126 wholesale and retail stalls
- Open air market with a capacity to accommodate 560 traders
- Modern crèche
- Restaurant and modern ablution facility.
- 260,000 liters storage for harvesting storage.
- 1 Breast feeding complex with a toilet and kitchen
- 1 administration block with two rooms (office space), toilet, store and two holding rooms
- Market greening facilities/spaces (Landscaping works)
- Walkways, disposal bins, handwashing points and parking spaces





### Consumer Protection

The Government of Makueni County is keen in ensuring appropriate measures and policies are implemented to safeguard the rights and interests of consumers when they engage in commercial transactions. The primary objective of consumer protection to ensure fair and transparent business practices, protect consumers from fraud, deception, and unfair treatment, and maintain a levelled playing ground in the market- place.

The Consumer protection program inspected -732 , conducted verification of weighing & measuring equipment -5126 equipment and collected revenue of collected - Kshs 1,035,955.00 during the 2022/23 FY

### Market cleaning and sanitation

At least 521 casual cleaners across the county have been engaged to clean over 171 markets earmarked for cleaning. This provides for promotion of good hygiene practices and proper disposal of waste to prevent the spread of diseases in trading centers.

The Government of Makueni County has in August 2023 purchased. Wheelbarrows and spades to equip the market cleaners for effective service delivery.

### Industry Section

The Industry Department is tasked with the development of various industrial sectors within the county. Its primary focus is to foster industrial growth, promote innovation, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of domestic industries. The department provides support to existing industries, encourages new investments, and formulates policies to address industrial challenges and opportunities. It also plays a role in promoting research and development activities to drive technological advancements in industries. The County Government has partnered with;

1. MSEA to facilitate juakali associations in the county with machines and working infrastructure.
2. KIRDI in incubating and value addition of products.

### Small Business Development

The Government of Makueni County and Kenya Small Business Development Centers, a USAID in partnership with Strathmore University Business School has collaborated in a Memorandum of Understanding to initiate the best practices in business development and advisory services from the U.S. Small Business Development Center (SBDC) model and transfers them to a local network of county-based business centers.

The local network of centers adapts and implements the SBDC's accredited training



curriculum and proven methodology for supporting small businesses. The program builds linkages between Kenyan and American MSMEs to transfer best practices and proven models from the U.S. SBDCs to Kenya's county based business centers.

This helps Kenyan MSMEs more effectively take advantage of local and export market opportunities, have improved access to finance, apply market analytics, and benefit from a supportive business-enabling policy environment at the county level. This strengthens Kenya's economic competitiveness and generates positive impacts (jobs, livelihoods, and incomes) for the Kenyan people.

### **Makueni Indigenous Food Festival**

Makueni County Government brought together more than 50 local exhibitors drawn from all over County to a first ever annual Makueni Indigenous Food festival celebrates the traditional foods, culinary heritage, and culinary skills of indigenous communities.

The annual festival is geared to preserve and promote cultural, empower community, exchange culinary and education, sustain ethical practices, economic development and tourism, food security and sovereignty and addressing food inequality.

### **Makueni Tourism Circuits**

In collaboration with the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB), the government successfully launched the Makueni tourism circuits, providing tourists with well-defined routes to explore the county's attractions. This initiative enhanced accessibility and showcased the diverse cultural and natural heritage of the region.



### **Other programs in Tourism Directorate**

#### ***1. Partnerships with Tourism Sector Leaders:***

The government established partnerships with prominent tourism sector leaders, such as the Tour Operators Society of Kenya (TOSK), Wanderlust Diaries as well as various influencers and celebrities. These collaborations enhance marketing efforts, attract more tourists, and promote sustainable tourism practices.

#### ***2. Collaboration with Stakeholders:***

The government has engaged relevant stakeholders such as the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB), Tourism Fund (TF), Tourism Regulatory Authority (TRA), Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS),



Kenya Forest Service (KFS), and Kenya Utalii College. These collaborations have fostered knowledge sharing, capacity building, and coordinated efforts towards tourism development.

### ***3.Training and Standards Development:***

In collaboration with the Kenya Utalii College, the government has provided training to Makueni county tourism service providers. This initiative ensures high service standards, improves visitor experiences, and strengthens the tourism sector's professionalism.

### ***4.Community Involvement and Sustainable Tourism Recognition:***

The government has actively encouraged community involvement in tourism sector activities, leading to the county winning the prestigious Sustainable Tourism Award by Sustainable Tourism Agenda 2023. This recognition demonstrates the county's commitment to sustainable practices and the empowerment of local communities.

### ***5.Establishment of Tourism Supporting Infrastructure***

The Directorate of Tourism Services in its endeavor to develop and diversify tourism in the county has constructed tourism infrastructure including:

- Historical Centre (Kalamba Historical Centre)



- 3 curio/ handcraft Centres (Located at Emali (Emali Handcraft Centre), Kiboko(Kiboko Woodcarvers Centre) and Mbui Nzau(Makindu handcraft Cooperative Society Ltd)) to provide the necessary infrastructure for pre- serving the culture and heritage of the County.

### ***6.Mapping of tourism sites and facilities***

The Directorate of Tourism Services conducted a comprehensive mapping of tourism sites and facilities in the County, in order to establish their locality and amenities offered.





# HOME OF LIVE MUSIC & CHOIRS



**FREE RECORDING FOR MAKUENI RESIDENTS**  
LOCATED AT UNOA HILL BEFORE MAKUENI GIRLS, WOTE TOWN



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@MakueniStudios



Makueni Studios





*Explore Makueni*



*Experience Makueni*



*Tembea 017*