



The Resort City

A Newsletter of the County Government of Isiolo

Third Edition
Issue no. 003



Advanced Health Care System
Fully Equipped Medical Facilities in Isiolo County

ISSUE NO. 003 - A Newsletter of the County Government of Isiolo - August-October, 2021





COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF ISILOLO

VISION

A secure, just, integrated and prosperous county where all enjoy full potential and high quality of life.

MISSION

Facilitation of an inclusive participatory engagement in development; creation of a vibrant and welcoming environment that allows optimal utilization of available resources.



H.E. DR. MOHAMED KUTI
GOVERNOR, ISIOLO COUNTY



H.E. DR. ABDI ISSA
DEPUTY GOVERNOR



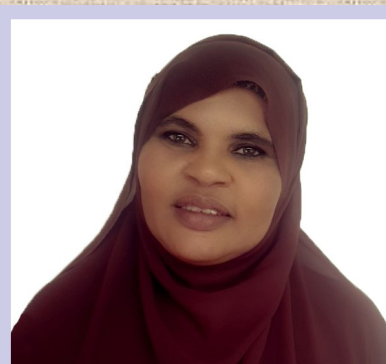
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Editor's Note



Government communication is key in addressing information gaps that breed propaganda, fake news and mis-information on development projects and programmes. The Resort City Newsletter seeks to inform residents of the great County of Isiolo on what their government is doing for them.

In this edition of this quarter's Newsletter, readers will find different interventions, projects and programmes that the County Government of Isiolo under the able leadership of Governor Mohammed Kuti has implemented.

The county government has achieved quite a lot including; setting in place e-CIMES, providing relief food through department of special programmes, carried out a consumer protection exercise, started the operationalization of the county abattoir, put in place more regulations for quality service delivery and much more.

Antony Kiarie,
Director, Information and Public Communication.

Contents

Page 8.Isiolo Joins Peers in Enactment of Facility Improvement Fund

Page 9.Governor Kuti leads in Signing Amended ACTs

Page 12-13. Trade Department Consumer Protection Exercise

Page 14.Operationalization of Isiolo County Abattoir

Page 16.Governor Kuti Flags-Off Drought Response Commodities

Page 17. Weekly COVID-19 Meeting

Page 20. Health Status In Isiolo County

Page 25.Vulnerable Fund Managers Training

Page 26. Governor Kuti Flags-Off Relief Food

Page 27. County Officers Receive Training on Spatial Planning

Page 28 Private Sector Asked To play Role in Malnutrition

Page 30 : Isiolo On The Global Stage Owing to Governor Kuti's Investment in Youth

Page 32: Operationalization of Isiolo International Airport

Page 32 Youth Group Benefits from Diversified Livelihood Project

Page 13. Pictorial

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H.E Dr. Mohamed Kuti, Governor, Isiolo County

Despite numerous challenges that have derailed development plans, counties remain the pillars of socio-economic aspirations in our country. To this end, as your Governor I have sought ways that my administration can utilize to finance the various interventions, projects and programmes that we have successfully implemented in the last four years.

We have as government following our commitment to ensure no youth loses his or her life to crime, drug abuse, and radicalization, partnered with Kenya School of Government (KSG) and UNDP to start and ran an innovation centre. I am happy that our youth have fully embraced this initiative and we have in the 9 months trained; 100 in computer skills, 5 in HCIA Security Systems, 164 in Hydroponic, and several others in various courses.

It for this reason that the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs and other dignitaries visited our great county in early September. They came to learn and also celebrate our success with us. My administration, therefore, commits to continue conceiving development ideas that will

provide life transforming opportunities for our youth.

Our county like many other Northern Kenya counties has in the last 6 months experienced one of the most severe drought. To cushion most residents, and prevent further loss of life, my government partnered with USAID-Nawiri to purchase and distribute livestock feeds (Range Cubes) and water generators. My administration through the Department of Special Programmes also provided relief food to more than 20,000 households.

Further, for government to better serve mwanachi properly drafted legislation is required. We have also worked closely with our county assembly to amend some legislation; Facility Improvement fund (FIF), Emergency Fund ACT, Education Bursary Fund ACT, Livestock Yard Sales ACT and the Women, Youth and PWDs Fund ACT which will help us fund relevant departmental projects and interventions.

In addressing challenges of unmotorable roads and accessibility that have been experienced by our people in the past, as your Governor, I initiated the marring of different roads in our county. Similarly, we have made great progress in the process of completing the construction of our state-of-the-art stadium.

This publication highlights some of the interventions we have been able to realize in this quarter. I believe we will achieve even more in the coming quarter.

H.E Dr. Mohamed Abdi Kuti,
The County Governor,
County Government of Isiolo.





Dr. Ahmed Galgalo, Isiolo County Secretary

Access to quality service is the right of every resident of our great County. To underscore this, my office continues to work tirelessly to ensure public officers deliver services in a quality and timely manner. This we have been achieved through taking our officers for relevant trainings and benchmarking.

In the month of August this year, we for instance did take a group of our officers and senior county government leadership to Vihiga County for a benchmarking trip on Geographic Information System (GIS). This is a new technology that my office working with relevant departments of County Government of Isiolo seeks to adopt as a means of improving service delivery.

Similarly, after various trainings and benchmarking trips, I am happy to report that we did also launch our Electronic County Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System (e-CIMES) in early September this year. We believe that this new technology will ensure that projects funded by the county government are executed in good time and within set budgets.

The E-CIMES platform is also particularly important for my office as it will help us assess performance contracts for all officers. This will be used to motivate officers to work hard with the goal of serving 'mwananchi'. We are grateful to USAID-NAWAIRI for walking with us in this journey.

My call to all residents of Isiolo County is to help my office serve you better. To assist them do this, we have put in place a Complaints Handling Committee that will ensure their suggestions are presented to the County Government leadership.

**Dr. Ahmed Galgalo,
The County Secretary,
County Government of Isiolo.**



OUR VISION
A responsive, well managed and accountable public service delivering first class human resource services

OUR MISSION
To maximize productivity in the public service by providing efficient, effective and equitable human resource services to public officers and the citizens through the provision of policy guidance, regulatory framework and developing institutional and human resource capacity for effective delivery of services to the public.

RESOLVED CITIZEN SERVICE DELIVERY CHARTER

S/No	Services	Channel of communication	Requirements to obtain services	Charges	Timeliness
1	Attending to visitors	Face to Face	• Self-introduction • Courtesy to Receptionist	Free	Immediately on first come first served basis
2	Responding to telephone calls	Official telecom line	• Self-introduction • Courtesy and clarity to the receptionist	Free	Immediately within three rings
3	Responding to enquiries	Visit Telephone Letters	• Self-introduction • Contacts • Clarity of enquiry Provide contacts i.e. address, telephone, e-mail.	Free	Immediately Within 7 working days
4	Responding to mails	E-Mail Letters	Provide contacts i.e. address, telephone, e-mail, etc.	Free	Within a day Within 7 working days
5	Responding to matters raised through files	E-mails Filed documents	Properly marked to and filed documents	Free	Within 5 working days
6	Staff training	Letter	• Availability of training budget • Approved institution admission / invitation for training letter	Free	Continuous
7	Organizing County executive meetings	Internal memo	• Cabinet paper • Sector reports • Meeting schedule • Agenda paper	Free	Twice per month
8	Prepare and circulate County executive meeting minutes	e-mails and hard copy	CIC meeting held	Free	Within 5 days after the meeting
9	Civic education	Training plan	• Approved civic education budget • Training materials	Free	Continuous
10	Payment of goods and services	written	• LPOs / LSOs • Delivery notes • Invoices	Free	Within 20 days of invoicing
11	Acknowledgement of response to complaints	Visit Telephone Letter	• Honesty • Contacts • Identity of complainant • Clarity of the complaint	Free	Within 3 working days
12	Response to complaints	E-mail Complaint box	• Filled up form • Register complaint	Free	Opened monthly and issue addressed immediately and response to complainant given within 3 days
13	Handling staff disciplinary matter	Personnel file	• Honesty • Show cause letter • Physical appearance before disciplinary committee	Free	Within 10 working days
14	Retrieval of personnel file from the HR Registry	Verbal/ telephone/ letter	• Purpose of the file requested • Correct personnel details name and personnel number	Free	15 minutes
15	Providing adequate public information on service delivery	Public notices, local radio stations, public forums, newspapers and county website	• Access to channels of communication • Visit to County offices for information	Free	Continuous and at least once a month
16	Provide policies and circulars to guide operations	Circulars	• Download from county website	Free	Continues

At Isiolo County, Office of the County Secretary, we shall endeavour to disseminate information taking in to consideration the need to reach persons with disabilities, the cost, local language and the most effective method of communication, and information shall be easily accessible and available free or at cost taking in to account the medium used

Any services that does not conform to the above standards or any officer who does not live up to commitment and courtesy and excellence in service delivery should be reported to:

County Secretary
County Government of Isiolo
County Head Quarter
DC Road, Isiolo Town
P.O. Box 36 - 60300, Isiolo
E-mail: county_secretary@isiolo.go.ke
Website: www.isiolo.go.ke

The Commission Secretary/Chief Executive Officer
Commission on Administrative Justice
2nd Floor West End Towers
P.O. Box Age Rhas High School off Wajakvi Way
P.O. Box 20414 - 0200
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Tel: +254 20 2270000/2303000/2603765/2441211
E-mail: certification@ombudsman.go.ke
Website: www.ombudsman.go.ke

HUDUMA BORA NI HAKI YAKO!





Devolution of the health function has had enormous benefits in counties across Kenya. However, the continued requirement by county treasuries that revenues generated at health facilities are banked in respective County Revenue Fund (CRF) accounts, have left most local health facilities struggling. County treasuries in some counties have used the Public Finance Management ACT, 2012 to claim implementing FIF is an illegality. Isiolo County is no exception with her health facilities having for a long time been denied by the County Treasury to raise, retain and use revenues generated without going to CRF.

To effectively address this, Members of Isiolo County Assembly led by house Speaker Hon. Hussein Roba recently held a special session in which they deliberated on importance of enacting Facility Improvement Fund (FIF) regulations. Facility Improvement fund (FIF) is revenue collected at public health facilities as user fees paid to defray the cost of running these facilities. This fund is usually vital to allow facilities to manage their day-to-day expenses and manage situations where

emergency supplies have to be procured.

Speaking during the session supported by USAID-Nawiri that was held in Nanyuki, Hon. Hussein Roba underscored the importance FIF regulations. He said FIF will make health facilities in the county independent especially the management of finances which will enable them efficiently carryout their operations.

“We need to enact this regulation as soon as possible. Our peers have for long been challenging us. Mombasa County which has FIF in place is one good example. This has ensured autonomy of its public hospitals to run their own financial resources making them operate effectively while ours are struggling,” Roba Said adding that open surgeries are now possible in these hospitals due to FIF.

Continue on Page 10



Properly drafted legislations are pivotal for the disbursement of fund by governments. It is against this backdrop that in mid-August 2021, Isiolo County Governor Dr. Mohammed Abdi Kuti flanked by Isiolo County Assembly Speaker Hon. Hussein Roba and the Clerk Hon. Salad Boru signed different amended ACTs. Among the amended ACTs Governor Kuti signed include; Emergency Fund ACT, Education Bursary Fund ACT, Livestock Yard Sales ACT and the Women, Youth and PWDs Fund ACT.

Speaking during the event, Governor Kuti noted that the amended ACTs had dissimilar deficiencies on which the Controller of Budget (COB) had

advised various amendments. He additionally noted the ACTs will guide his administration to expedite spending of funds they propose and support.

In particular, Governor Kuti was happy that the amended Education Bursaries ACT will bring to a stop the reallocation of funds to other County Government obligations such as pending bills. He further noted the amended law will enable his government to spend funds allocated as bursaries. This he said will be of great benefit to deserving students in the County.

" I am happy that we have amended all these ACTs as advised by the COB with the help of our County Assembly. Am in particular happy that we will soon be able to disburse bursaries for our well deserving students," Governor Kuti Said adding that his administration is keen on doubling the amount disbursed in this financial year as it was not in the previous year.

Continue on Page 15





According to Mr. Boniface Mbutia a consultant with Thinkwell Consulting, the Public Finance Act 2012 has for long been misinterpreted by county treasuries. Importantly, he states section 109 (2) actually allows for public health facilities to raise, retain and use revenues generated without going to CRF.

“County treasuries have for a long time misinterpreted the PFM Act 2012 and, in the process, denied local public health facilities autonomy to use revenues even for the smallest commodities they need. This has denied many citizens access to health services that they deserve,”

Mbutia asserts adding that this needs to change. He also observed that in the spirit of devolution, the Ministry of Health has on several occasions written to all 47 counties on the need to embrace FIF. This he argued was the best way to ring-fencing resources for health to prioritize service delivery and also drive aspirations of Universal Health Care.

Why FIF is important to the health sector?

say will ensure optimization of resources. Others believe that it is an opportunity to bring the discipline of revenue collection, improvement of service offering and delivery of quality service.

According to Mr. Wario Galma CEC Health services, FIF regulations are long overdue. He also adds that apart from improved delivery of health services, FIF will entrenches the culture of performance in the health sector.



The Speaker of Isiolo County Assembly, Dr. Hussein G. Roba, at a Workshop on Facility Improvement Fund in the Health Sector.

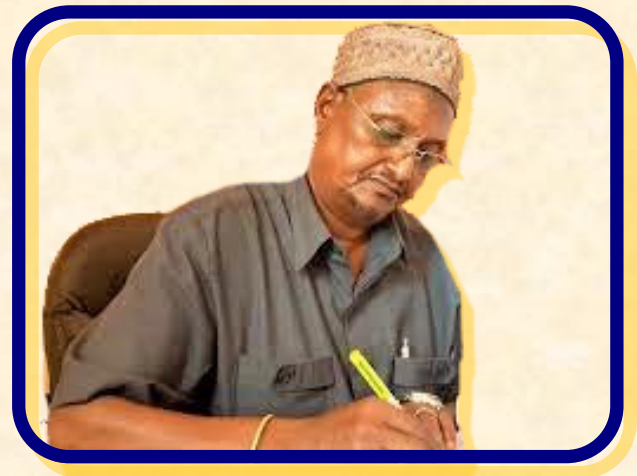




“My belief is that we need this particular regulation in place as it enhances service delivery because its strengthens team work and results focus culture in health facilities,” Wario said adding that it is far better than the untimely and unresponsive centralised procuring system under CRF.

He also said FIF accounts for 3-5% of total county allocations and its adoption will support health facilities to attract additional resources to strengthen service coverage, quality of care and to meet the health needs of the community within their catchment.

Counties that have already embraced FIF are reaping huge benefits in terms of service delivery at local health facilities. Makueni and Nakuru counties are cited as the best examples with the later raising an estimated Kes. 1.9 B at its health facilities contributing to better services. Makueni’s success has also been made possible by creation of Makueni Care a community-based insurance mechanism that has improved coverage and how the County allocates resources to public health facilities.



Facility Improvement Fund in the Health Sector (FIF)

“apart from improved delivery of health services, FIF will entrenches the culture of performance in the health sector”.

**Hon. Wario Galma
CEC for Health Services**





The department of Tourism Trade, Cooperative, Industrialization, and Enterprise Development, County Government of Isiolo in mid-August this year embarked on a Weights and Measures exercise in Isiolo town. This is informed by need to enhance consumer protection and fair-trade practices in the County.

Some of the crucial activities that were conducted included; verification of weighing and measuring instruments used for trade and pre-packaged controls.

The exercise was launched by County Executive Committee member (CEC) for Tourism, Trade, Cooperative, Industrialization, and Enterprise Development Madam Halima Abgudo and Chief Officer for Trade, Industrialization and Enterprise Development Madam Lucy Kaburu. The two were joined by officers attached at sub-section of weight, unit, and measures.

Speaking during the launch, the CECm stated that the County Government generates revenue from Isiolo traders in terms of licenses and other business levies. She further noted it's the mandate of the County Government to enhance consumer protection and fair-trade practices.

"It's the responsibility of the County Government to safeguard the rights of the members of the public by ensuring

that whatever they are buying is of the right units and measurement for the value of their monies," Madam Abgudo said regretting that COVID-19 interrupted the exercise last year.

On her part C.O Lucy Kaburu observed that the verification exercise is in line with weight and measure Act cap 513 of the Constitution of Kenya. She also called upon all traders to avail themselves and ensure their weighing machines have been verified by trade officers from the County Government who will be visiting their business premises.

"The mission of the Weights and Measures Department is to facilitate fair trade by ensuring use of accurate weighing and measuring equipment, promoting fair

*busi-
ness
practices
and pro-
tecting our
consumers against
exploitation,"*

Lucy Said ...





adding that the officers will be visiting traders in their respective areas to establish if weighing machines are up to standard and in case, they are worn out authorized officers will assist in repairing them.

She also reminded the traders that at later dates the department will take legal action against traders who will be using weighing machines which have not been verified and stamped. During the week-long exercise which also took place in Oldonyiro ward, officers visited several businesses in town; petrol stations, supermarkets, butcheries, and shops.





Operationalization of Isiolo Abattoir gained momentum in early September this year after the SCIP Engineering Group from South Africa and the County Government of Isiolo held a meeting to deliberate on its structural design including that of feeding lot and drainage.

According to Mr. Leon Bernard, an industrial engineer of who presented recent designs to members present, the latest designs are the best standards. He compared to those of abattoirs in South Africa and reported they are among the best.

“Recent designs we have done are among the best globally. They are comparable to abattoirs we have designed in South Africa and other countries,” Bernard asserted.

The CEC member for Agriculture livestock and Fisheries Development Dr. Lawrence Mwangela said that the abattoir is one of the key flagship projects for Governor Kuti's government. This he said noting that efforts directed towards its operationalization are welcome.

“I am happy with the latest designs of our abattoir. It is my hope that works towards operationalization will commence in a month's time after we identify a contractor and awarded the contract,” Dr. Mwangela Said.

In addition to presenting the redesigned structure, SCIP Engineering Group also touched on; refrigerators, chillers and equipment that the contractor is expected to install at the abattoir.





In a rejoinder to those politicizing the Bursary issue, the Governor advised them to be truthful to Isiolo residents. This he said noting that his government has in the past 2 years disbursed bursary cheques totaling to Kshs. 35M each year only to be blocked by COB in the 3rd year.

"It is sad to see leaders been dishonest and busy politicizing the bursary issue. Yes, we didn't give bursaries but there was a legal reason in our Education Bursary ACT that was identified by the COB. We have now amended the law and are ready to disburse once funds are available from the National Government," Governor Kuti observed.

He also highlighted the importance of other amended ACTs that will be of great benefit to Isiolo residents. Specifically, the Livestock Sales Yard ACT which addresses discrepancies and seeks to provide procedures on how communities and their County Government share resources from livestock revenues. The other key ACTs are Emergency Fund ACT that will enable County Government of Isiolo to respond to incidences of emergency and the Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities ACT that will provide enterprise funding for these

vulnerable groups.

Also, in attendance were; Isiolo County Secretary Dr. Ahmed Galgalo, CECms Livestock and Agriculture (Dr. Lawrence Mwongela), Water and Sanitation (Josphine Eregai), Chief Officers, Abdia Dabaso (Special Programme, Ailene Kajuju (Education), Benjamin Lopet (Agriculture), and Amina Dulacha (Environment and Natural Resources).





In an effort to cushion hundreds of county residents against devastating effects of drought, on 31st August this year Governor Mohammed Kuti flagged off two automatic generators for boreholes, service kits for repair and maintenance of 7 boreholes and livestock feeds in form of range cubes. The items procured in partnership with the USAID funded Nawiri program will be used to boost efforts to provide water and also feed already weak livestock.

Speaking during the event, Governor Kuti called on other Non-Governmental Organizations working in the County to focus on transformative projects that are sustainable and those that will help solve issues of water scarcity.

He said his administration has put in place policy measures that will fast track process to assist organizations in the water sector to pull resources together as a way of coming up with mega projects. According to the Governor this is the best way of finding a lasting solution to issues of water shortage in the county.

"I am happy that Non-governmental Organizations in our

County are no longer working in isolation, they are doing so in consultation with us. It is the government of the day that understands issues affecting the people and are therefore better placed to identify interventions. We have put in place policy measures that will fast track interventions in the water sector that we believe will help us addressing water scarcity using a more sustainable approach," Governor Kuti asserted.

He also said Modogashe and some of the strategic grazing zones are faced with acute water shortage due to recurring drought adding that water tracking, provision of fuel and logistics are not sustainable as drought reoccur after every two or three years.

More than 600 households benefited from hay bought from fodder producing groups in Kinna ward as a community economic Stimulus for Kinna farmers. Similarly, 500 and 337 households in Chari and in Ol Donyiro respectively did benefit from range cubes.

Continue on Page 19





In the wake of the fourth wave of COVID-19, Isiolo County COVID-19 Emergency Response committee held their weekly meeting on 24th August this year, which was co-chaired by Governor Dr. Mohamed Abdi Kuti and County Commissioner Mr. Geoffrey Omoding.

While welcoming all members, Governor Kuti termed the meeting an opportune moment during which Isiolo is fully focused on combating the deadly virus.

“I urge all residents to continue following guidelines stipulated by the Ministry of Health to prevent continued spread of the virus. It is only with these that lives of our people will resume to normalcy,” the Governor said.

He also urged committee members which consist of

heads of departments from both County and National Government and other stakeholders to continue sensitizing the public about the pandemic. Governor Kuti also requested residents to go for COVID-19 testing and vaccination.

However, he regretted how the continued spread of COVID-19 has adversely affected Kenya’s economy with many county residents losing their jobs and some having their businesses closed down. To address this the Governor stated that his government is putting up all measures to ensure revival of the county economy among them the enactment of Youth, Women, and People Living with Disability Fund ACT.

“As a member of National Emergency Response Committee,





I am going to lobby for additional vaccines as I am aware of about 3.2 million doses of Pfizer vaccines from USA will soon arrive in the country. I will liaise with the national government to support my county, "Governor Kuti Said urging residents to desist from rumors and propaganda peddled about vaccines which lead to people holding back from being vaccinated.

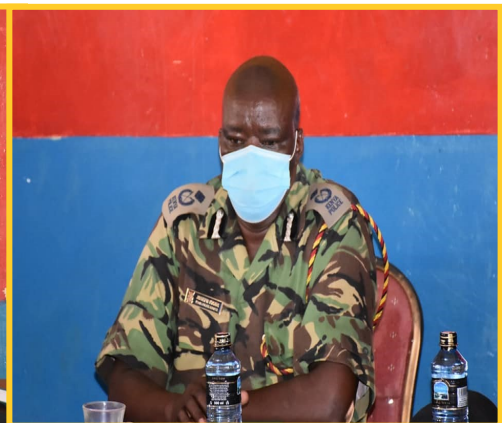
Geoffrey Omoding echoed sentiments made by the Governor and requested the committee to continue holding their weekly meeting so as to ensure the county has current information on matters pertaining to COVID-19.

CECm for health service Wario Galma gave the updates showing the progress the county has made towards mitigating the Delta virus describing it as the deadliest form in comparison to past variants. In

particular he observed this one mutates faster and research shows that it affects the lungs instantly and is more fatal.

On his part, Isiolo police commander Mr. Joseph Kigen, appealed to members of the committee to ensure there is fumigation in the police stations and prisons. He also requested for his officers to be considered by health officials when administering vaccines.

Also, in attendance was CECm for Tourism, Trade, Industrialization, and Enterprise (Halima Gudo), Chief officers Trade and Industrialization Lucy Kaburu, Public Service Management and Administration Mustaffa Wachu and Lands and Physical Planning Yussuf.





Herders across the county also benefited from fuel for strategic boreholes an average of 1,000 litres per borehole for 11 boreholes. An additional 7,000 litres of fuel for water tracking targeting Modogashe, Cherab and Chari wards was also availed.

Nawiri is a five years USAID funded project implemented in partnership with the County Government of Isiolo that seeks to sustainably reduce acute malnutrition among vulnerable populations.





H.E Dr. Mohamed Kuti Visit to Isiolo County Intensive Care Unit at ICTRH



Medical Oxygen Plant Installed at Garba tulla Level IV Hospital in Isiolo County





Main Theatre at Garbatulla Level IV Hospital in Isiolo County.

Fully Equipped Medical Facilities in Isiolo County

“Equipping Our Medical Facilities in Isiolo County has been a great achievement for this Government and the People of Isiolo”

Mr. Ibrahim Alio
County Chief Officer for Health Services



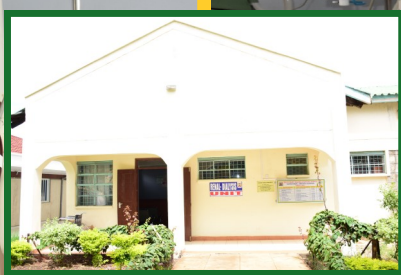


H.E Dr. Mohamed Kuti Inspects the Isiolo County Preparedness against COVID 19 Virus

“My Government is Committed to ensure that the Health of Our People is Paramount”

H.E Dr. Mohamed Abdi Kuti, The Governor, Isiolo County.







Modern Medical Equipments installed at Garbatulla Level IV Hospital



Modern Medical Equipments installed at Garbatulla Level IV Hospital





Across Kenya vulnerable groups go through a myriad of hardships some related to inaccessibility to income generating activities due to lack of financial capital. In Isiolo, the County Government has sought to change this narrative through creation of the Youth, Women and Persons with Disabilities Enterprise Development Fund ACT. To make the fund a reality, in Mid-August this year the County Government trained its board members.

According to Isiolo Country Secretary Dr. Ahmed Galgalo the training will facilitate distribution of Ksh. 43M set aside as empowerment funds for these vulnerable groups.

Speaking during the training that took place at El Boran, organized in partnership with USAID-Kuza and Action Aid Kenya, Dr. Galgalo said that the County Government of Isiolo is committed to empower vulnerable groups. This he said noting that assisting them start businesses was the best way to fight object poverty and transform their lives.

Dr. Galgalo clarified that Ksh.21M which had been set aside for the financial year 2020-2021 had not been disbursed following the Controller of Budget advice to the County Government of Isiolo to

amend some provisions in the Act. Amendments that would make it to be in line with the Public Finance Management Act.

He assured those who had applied for the funds among them; 166 youth groups, 326 women groups, and 23 PLWDs across the 10 wards that their funds are intact.

Dr. Galgalo also added that funds for the year 2021-2022 totaling Kes 22M will be the first bunch to be disbursed while the Kes 21M for 2020-2021 will be factored in the County Government supplementary budget ready for disbursement at a late date.

“The board members are undergoing three days training on fund management will be expected to ensure the funds are managed well. I also urge them, since this fund is revolving, they have to ensure beneficiaries pay back to the county government which will facilitate further disbursement of funds to other vulnerable members of in our county.” Dr. Galgalo asserted.

He called upon those from the Muslim faith not to hold back because of interest as this fund is Sharia Compliant. Also in attendance were Chief Officers Mr. Phillip Mambelisa and Mrs. Lucy Kaburu.





Drought is one of the hazards that adversely affects residents of Northern Kenya Counties. In Isiolo County, drought has in the last 4 months presented devastating effects to both human and animals lives. It is against this backdrop, that in early October this year that Governor Kuti’s government through Department of Special Programmes intervened through the distribution of relief food.

Speaking as he flagged-off relief food, Governor Kuti asserted that he will personally ensure that no resident of Isiolo dies of hunger. Additionally, he pointed out that his government had bought enough food that will benefit more than 20,000 households.

“We have enough food for more than 20,000 households. Our plan is that each family will receive 5kgs rice, 6kgs maize flour, 2 litres of cooking oil, 5kgs Sugar and 2 packets of tealeaves.” Governor Kuti Said.

He also assured county residents that all wards would benefit from the relief food drought response program. Similarly, the governor directed

the department of Special program, ward administrators and village committees to ensure fairness by delivering the food to the targeted groups.

The exercise entailed distribution of food in several villages in Merti, Garba tula and Oldonyiro. CEC Health Services Wario Galma led the Merti team, while CEC Finance Abdinasir Daud, Garba Tulla and CEC Agriculture Lawrence Mwangera the Oldonyiro ward team.

Present during the flagging-off exercise were; CS Dr. Ahmed Galgalo, CO special programs Abdia Dabaso and Isiolo Municipality manager Osman Halake.





County governments are charged with county planning and development as per the constitution of Kenya and the undertaking requires that counties perform the functions of formulating County specific policies, strategies, and guidelines, preparation of County spatial plans and urban spatial plans, implementation of the plans, and undertaking of research on spatial planning within their area of jurisdiction and participating in the preparation of regional spatial development plans.

In this regard, the County Government of Isiolo in partnership with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation (FAO) in the last week October organized a 5 days training on County Spatial Plan and community land management for county officers.

The expected spatial planning of Isiolo County includes historical growth and the new central business district where the county headquarters is un-

der construction as well as an ultra-modern market. This Programme is aimed at strengthening capacity at the municipality level to plan better for urbanization support policy and legislative changes to enable greater private sector-led growth. This will ultimately raise investment for critical bankable, climate-resilient infrastructure and value chain projects.

While officially opening the training session being funded by FAO under the support of European Union the CECM for Lands, Physical planning and Urban Development Mr. Yussuf Dahir said the county leadership and technical officers need to be adequately sensitized and guided on all the requirements and processes of the Community Land Act (CLA) for successful implementation of the Community Land Act 2016.





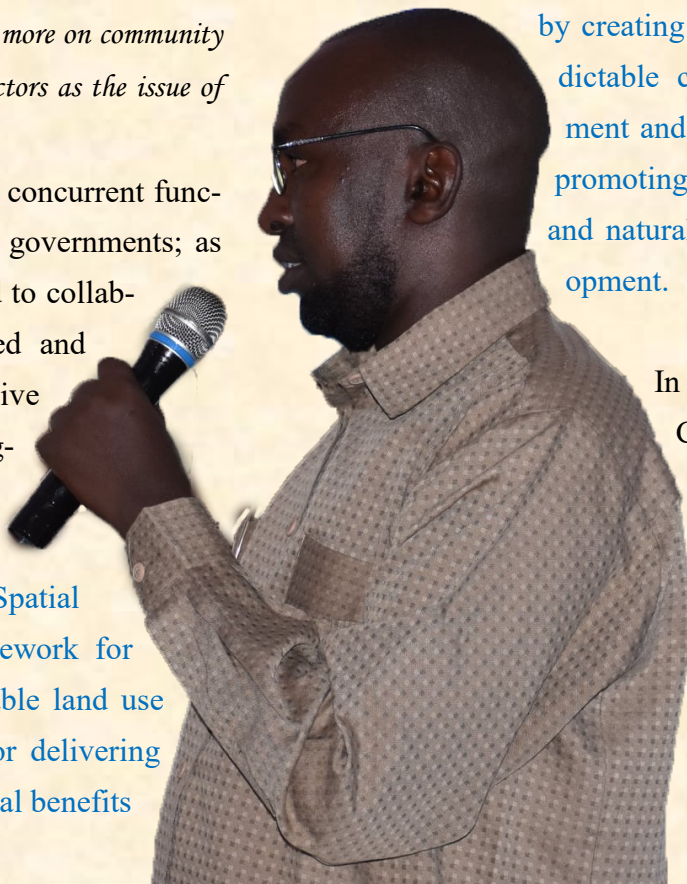
"This training is aimed at improving knowledge on what is spatial planning is, its importance and more on community land to county officers from all the sectors as the issue of land cuts across," Dahir said.

He noted that spatial planning is a concurrent function of both National and County governments; as such, both government levels need to collaborate in developing a harmonized and comprehensive framework responsive to the county's needs and challenges.

Isiolo Municipality Manager Osman Halakhe said the County Spatial Plan provides an important framework for efficient, productive, and sustainable land use and Spatial planning is critical for delivering economic, social, and environmental benefits

by creating more stable and predictable conditions for investment and development, and by promoting prudent use of land and natural resources for development.

In attendance were CECMs, Chief Officers, directors for respective departments and the communication department.





As severe drought continues to devastate lives in Isiolo and Marsabit counties, Small and Medium Enterprises have been challenged to take part in efforts of addressing acute malnutrition. In a recent two days stakeholders study findings dissemination forum, Non-governmental Organizations implementing the USAID funded NAWIRI program informed private sector players that they have an important role tackling acute malnutrition.

Speaking during the forum, GAINS Programme Manager Ms. Jacqueline Sigu one of consortium partners in the Nawiri program observed that those in business have a critical part in tackling issues adversely affecting food systems in both counties that contribute to malnutrition. Importantly she poses, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) need to actively bring sustainable solutions in food supply chains and food environments. This according to her will influence consumer behaviors related with dietary choices.

“Food systems in Isiolo and Marsabit experience numerous challenges; limited value addition thus low product shelf-life, inadequate market access and information, huge post-harvest losses and inadequate access to credit facilities. I believe SMEs poses a solid answer to all these,” Sigu asserted.

According to Mr. Gabriel Mbokothe of the Catholic Relief Services, the private sector is uniquely positioned to solve for inefficient nutritious foods value

chains. This he asserts is both a market failure and a key driver of malnutrition.

“By improving value chains, the private sector can address the issue of dietary quality, including micronutrient deficiencies. Enterprises provide goods, services, markets and jobs to communities which are key drivers of access to nutritious foods,” Mbokothe Said.

He also argues SMEs hold the key to enhancing capacity of vulnerable populations to access nutritious foods by making it more available, accessible, affordable and desirable. However, the private sector in both counties still operates in a challenging environment characterized by; immense bottlenecks to financing tied to collateral, high operational costs, lack of public- private cooperation, poor road and telecommunications infrastructure and multiple taxing of goods.

Despite numerous interventions, Global Acute Malnutrition rates are still high in both Isiolo and Marsabit with the latest statistics showing 16% and 18% respectively. Nawiri seeks to sustainably reduce acute malnutrition among vulnerable populations in both counties. To realize this, GAIN is implementing interventions under the adopted marketplace for nutritious food approach to ensure improved Accessibility, Affordability and accessibility of Nutritious food products all year round.





In early September this year Governor Mohamed Kuti received global commendation following his administration's meaningful investments in youth empowerment. A national and international level delegation led by Cabinet Secretary Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs Hon. Joseph Mucheru EGH and Dr. Stephen Jackson UN Resident Coordinator poured praise on the Governor for investing in tapping potential among youth of Isiolo County. Speakers in a familiarization visit of the Isiolo Youth Innovation Centre observed that it is a model from which many not only in Kenya but world over can borrow from.

According to C.S Mucheru opportunities granted to the youth are tailored in such a manner that allowed them to design their own destinies as opposed to rigid programs that dictate what empowerment is. He also said the he was impressed by the ingenuity of youth of Isiolo and their determination to see their lives change for the better.

"The youth of Isiolo have shown us what empowerment really entails. They have demonstrated to us that youth when granted space can be drivers of economy through world class innovations and community inspiration creatives," C.S Mucheru Said adding that his Ministry will support the youth of Isiolo through Governor Kuti's administration.

Governor Kuti lauded youth of Isiolo for been at the forefront in success of the Youth Innovation Centre. He in particular noted that it is their individual sacrifices that have significantly contributed to continuity of the project.

"I must laud our youth for been reliable and focused drivers of the success of the centre. It is their passion and determination that has truly made significant continuity of this project and its contribution to the empowerment of our youth," Governor Kuti Said adding that the centre has played a key role in addressing social vices such as drugs abuse, radicalization and petty crimes that the youth were engaging in.



Other transformational development projects undertaken by Governor Kuti's administration were also celebrated.

"Today we are here to celebrate two great milestones, the magnificent transformation of devolution in Isiolo that we have witnessed that has happened in the last 4 years and the invaluable contribution that the innovation centre has made in the lives of Isiolo youth.," Mr. Badawi asserted.

He also promised to work towards replicating the success witnessed at Isiolo Innovation Centre, to all the other 46 counties. The colorful event was also graced by H.E Godana Dhadho Governor, Tana River County, Mrs. Ruth Kagia Deputy Chief of Staff in the Presidency, P.S State Department of Youth Affairs Mr. Charles Sunkuli CBS, and Ag. CEO Council of Governors (COG) Ms. Mary Mwiti.

Isiolo youth innovation centre was launched in October last year and has been a pioneer centre for youth empowerment in Kenya. Youth have been empowered in different areas; AGPO training, Entrepreneurship, Agribusiness and Hydroponic Training, Computer Security, ICT and Networking, Social Advocacy against social ills such as FGM and Creatives among many others.





Air transport is a vital enabler to achieving economic growth and development. To therefore realize these benefits from Isiolo International Airport, Governor H.E Dr. Mohamed Kuti on 30th August 2021 hosted a delegation from Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) which was led by the Principal Secretary for Transport Mr. Solomon Kitungu to discuss issues surrounding its operationalization.

During the meeting officials including the acting KAA Managing Director Mr. Alex Gitari and officers from the Presidential Delivery Unit (PDU) that were on

an inspection tour of the facility, briefed Governor Kuti on the Ministry of Transport’s agenda of ensuring the airport begins operations in December 2021.

According to the delegation the Ministry is in top gear to renovate a section of the airport that has for long derailed the full operationalization of this particular vision 2030 national government project.

Speaking to the press after the brief meeting, Governor Kuti said some of the much-needed fixes include; construction of cargo sheds, a control tower and extension of the

runway from the current 1.4 km to 2.5 km to make possible landing and take-off of large aircraft.

He also said that his government is ready to partner with the national government and the neighboring Meru County to ensure the facility starts operating soon.

“Am assuring the ministry of transport that we are committed to partner with the National Government and the County Government of Meru so that operations at Isiolo International Airport resume. The three months set by the ministry to bring to life the facility that has been lying idle for more than three years since its launch in 2017





can best be realized through collaborations,” Governor Kuti said.

He added that the airport facility is a key link to Lamu Port–South Sudan–Ethiopia-Transport (LAPSSET) corridor project being constructed by the National Government.

PS Kitungu regretted delayed operationalization of the project noting that it was as a result of shoddy work which had been executed by a certain contractor who later disappeared. However, he assured Governor Kuti that the national government is undertaking a procurement process to secure another contractor who will fast

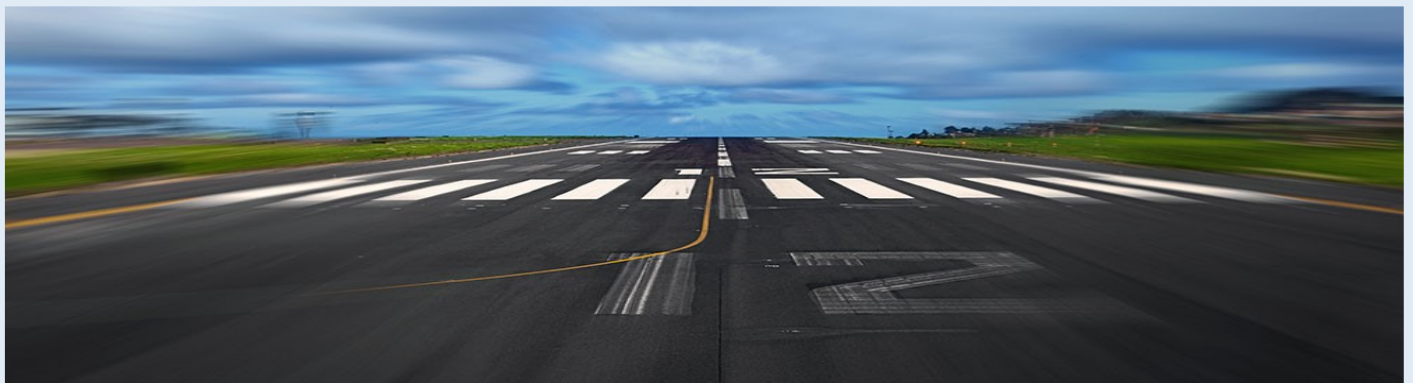
track the process and ensure the airport is opened by December this year.

“We have come to inspect the status of the construction so that we can award tender to another contractor since the government has set some funds to facilitate renovation of the runway and construction of the cargo shed,” PS Kitungu observed.

He pointed out that once it's full operationalized, the airport will completely change transportation mode of goods among them miraa hence improving the economic standard of Isiolo and neighboring Counties.

The acting KAA Managing Director Mr. Alex Gitari confirmed that Ksh. 20M has been set aside for the renovation of runway and construction of a cargo shed which is at 55% complete.

Also, in attendance were Isiolo County Secretary Dr. Ahmed Galgalo and CECm Urban Development, Lands and Physical planning Mr. Yussuf Dahir. The airport was commissioned by President Uhuru Kenyatta in 2017 but has never been fully operational.





Sunken fish Pond with Tilapia Fish Managed by Nasib Youth Group

Communities in Isiolo County are predominantly dependent on pastoralism for their source of income. However, the adverse effects of climate change have affected this livelihood leading to reduced family incomes and subsequently failure by a majority of our youth to earn a college or university education. This has over the recent years led to an increase in number of jobless youth that are involved in petty crimes and drugs and substance abuse.

To address this, in August last year the County Government of Isiolo identified NASIB youth group which has 20 members (11 young men and 9 young women) to empower it through a livelihood’s diversification fish farming project. Through this project NASIB youth group benefited from two liners, two fishponds and 1,200 fingerlings from Governor Kuti’s government and its development partner World Food Programme (WFP).

According to the group’s Chairperson Mr. Juma Osman, fish farming has brought immense benefits to members. He says members have realized both financial and nutritional benefits from the project.

“Despite some challenges especially those related with availability of water, we are grateful to Governor Kuti’s

administration for this project. It has really transformed our lives as it has worked both as an income source and nutritious food,” Juma said adding that the group has added two additional fish ponds from profits realized.

He also says that the group’s success also attracted more support from the County Government.

“We attribute our success to the support we have so far received from the County Government. Owing to our resilience, our group received two additional fish ponds in Burat Ward from the department of fisheries,” Juma adds.



Empowerment did not stop there. The group was also awarded a tender worth Kes. 500,000 for beautification of Isiolo Teaching and Referral Hospital (ICTRH). According to the group’s leadership, profits realized from this have helped members undertake different skills acquisition courses that have assisted them earn incomes.





NURTURING THE YOUTH AT IYIC





Accessibility on roads is an important aspect in enhancing movement of people and goods. To improve on accessibility in local county roads, department of lands & Physical Planning led by CECM Yussuf Dahir & CO Yussuf Mohamed has today rolled out opening of access roads in different parts of the county.





Governor Kuti

Awarded Trophy by NONDO

in recognition of his

Unwavering Support towards

Desert Wheel Race, Positive Attitude

Super dedication to Disability Inclusion.

*Northern Nomadic Disabled
Persons Organisation*





The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) stage in any development project plays a pivotal role in ensuring projects are timely implemented and are within allocated budgets. To achieve real-time assessment of development project’s data, the County Government of Isiolo led by Governor Mohammed Abdi Kuti has for the last six months worked in partnership with USAID-Nawiri to move its M&E function to a digital platform. It is against this backdrop, that on 9th September 2021 that Isiolo County Secretary Dr. Ahmed Galgalo led a number of CECs, Chief Officers, Directors, and management from USAID-Nawiri to launch Isiolo County’s e-CIMES platform.

In the colorful function held at El Boran hotel, which was also attended by members of the public, Nawiri M&E Lead Mr. Elias Mohammed recognized efforts made by Governor Kuti’s administration of shifting from M&E on paperwork to that based on technology. He also thanked the County Government for providing an enabling environment during training on the e-CIMES platform.

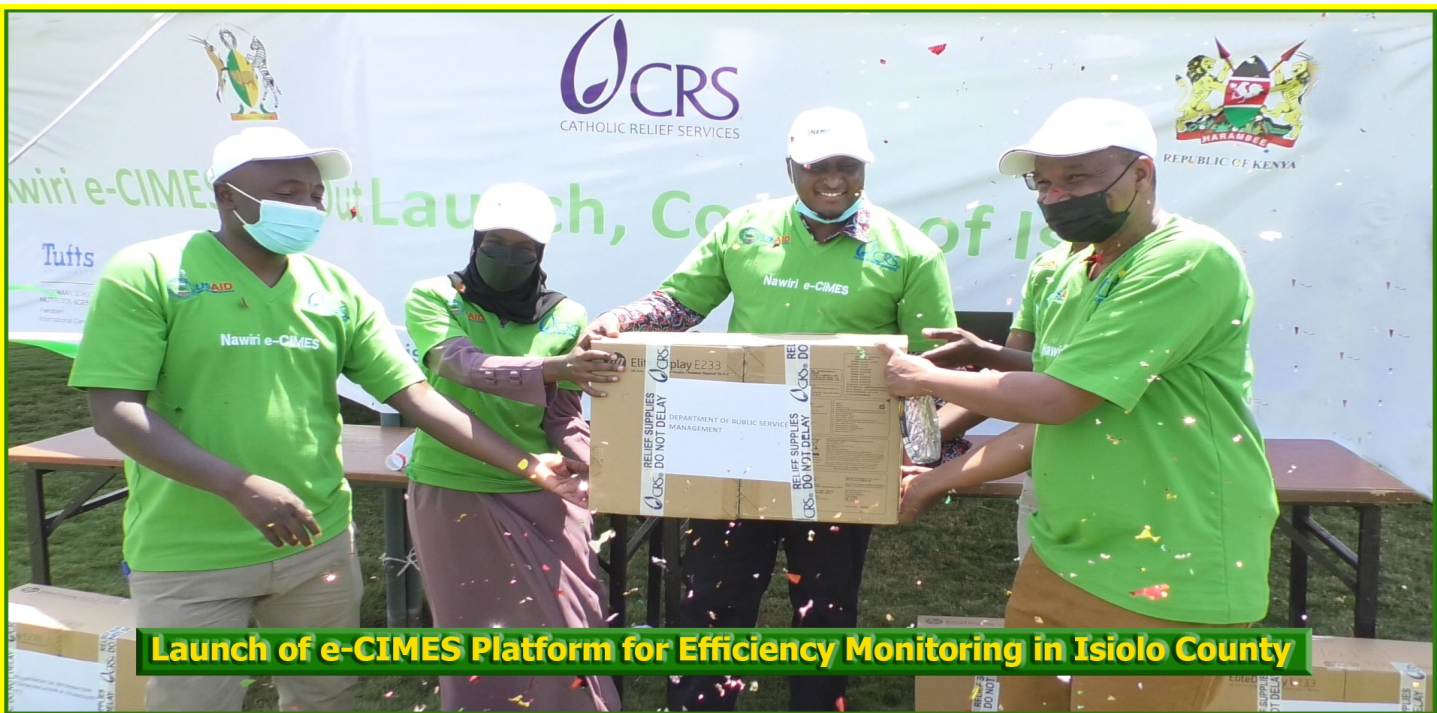
On his part, USAID-Nawiri’s Deputy of Party Ben

Mose restated Nawiri’s commitment in co-creating, co-planning, and co-implementation of county priorities. This he said noting that his organization will continue working closely with the County Government through various interventions that will have a positive impact on the lives of residents.

“Ours is to work with you on your priorities and on interventions that you strongly believe will bring real change in the lives of the people of Isiolo. Today we celebrate a milestone that would not have been possible without the cooperation we enjoy from the County Government,” Mose said.

Speaking during the event, Dr. Galgalo observed that e-CIMES will play a big role in ensuring development projects funded by the County Government are executed in good time and within set budgets. He also stated that the system will assist the County Government in picking out rogue contractors that delay and eventually deliver substandard projects.

Continue Page 40



Launch of e-CIMES Platform for Efficiency Monitoring in Isiolo County





“This system is a great step in the right direction for our county in terms of timely delivery of quality projects. It is my strong belief that e-CIMES will bring immeasurable benefits to our project’s implementation process. Most importantly it will assist us to single out rogue contractors and, in the process, save a lot of public money,” Dr. Galgalo Said asserting that performance contracts of all County Government officers will now be digitized through the same system.

Dr. Galgalo also asked CECs and Chief Officers to ensure that the system is fully operationalized adding that it will be resourceful in the upcoming performance assessment conference in December. This he said while making a special request to Nawiri on the need to work with the County Government to implement a Geographical Information System (GIS) for Isiolo.

USAID-Nawiri also provided ICT equipment for use by County trained technical officers, that will work as the department’s focal persons to enter and populate the monitoring data and information into

the e-CIMES platform.

Other speakers acknowledged fruits that are already visible as a result of the good working relationship between the County Government of Isiolo and USAID-Nawiri.

Also, in attendance were CECm Agriculture and Fisheries Dr. Lawrence Mwongela, Health Services Wario Galma, Tourism, Trade and Cooperatives Halima Gole and Lands, Public Works and Roads Mr. Yussuf Dahir. Chief officers Ibrahim Alio (Health Services), Mustafa Kuntulo (Public Service Management, County Administration and ICT), Lucy Kaburu (Trade and Cooperatives), Aileen Kajuju (Education), Rashid Arale (Youth and Sports), Rukia Murko (Peace and Cohesion) and Philip Lenaiyasa (Gender, Culture and Social Services).





Isiolo Hosts the 10th Edition of Desert Wheel Race 2021





*Peace &
Prosperity*

The County Government of Isiolo

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