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KENYAN LEADERS' DEVELOPMENT RECORD

ISSUE NO. 004

**Ruto's track
record: Hospitals,
schools, economic
hubs and people's
welfare**





How strengthening health infrastructure is critical to boosting Kenya's productivity

BY PHILIP MOMANYI |
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The Government has allocated Ksh150 million for the expansion of Comprehensive Cancer Centre at Kenyatta University Teaching Referral & Research Hospital. PHOTO | KUTRRH

Continued expansion of health infrastructure and expenditure on health services by both national and devolved governments are driving the country towards achievement of Universal Health Coverage by enhancing access to quality and affordable health services.

System overhaul, recruitment of more skilled health practitioners, investment in modern equipment and establishment of more health facilities are some of the notable efforts made towards promoting people-centred growth, as prescribed by Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

The President William Ruto-led administration has over the years pushed the envelope in growing the industry to ensure productivity of the citizenry is enhanced, social

wellness is improved and robust investments are directed at the sector to the increasing demand for quality healthcare.

The Economic Survey 2026 indicates that in the 2025/2026 financial year, spending on health services by the national government rose by 22.8 per cent to Ksh150.9 billion, while expenditure by county governments increased by 23.3 per cent to Ksh133.4 billion.

Specifically, the number of functional health facilities shot up by 4.6 per cent to 16.7 thousand in 2025, largely driven by expansion in Level 3 facilities.

"The number of hospital beds rose by 5.0 per cent to 106.3 thousand, and the number of cots increased by 8.3 per cent to 12.2 thousand, with the strongest growth observed across both private and public sectors," the report says.

Additionally, according to the trends of health services expenditure by the National Government for the periods 2021/22 to 2025/26, as documented by the Economic Survey 2026, recurrent and development expenditure on health services is projected to rise by 27.7 per cent and 10.8 per cent, respectively.

The proportion of health expenditure to total government expenditure is expected to increase from 3.0 per cent in 2024/25 to 3.5 per cent in 2025/26. The recurrent expenditure is also expected to increase to 111.0 billion, accounting for 73.5 per

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cent of the total expenditure on health.

In June this year President Ruto was categorical about the government's commitment to ensure that all Kenyans have access to affordable health services through a redesigned model managed by the Social Health Authority (SHA), which transitioned from National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) two years ago.

Under the revamped insurance model, SHA is administering three funds, namely: Primary Health Care Fund; Emergency, Chronic and Critical Illness Fund; and the contributory Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF).

President Ruto lamented that the previous schemes were discriminatory for the low-income earners, the majority, while favouring those employed or with the financial muscle to pay for medical services.

Continued on page 3 →

Continued from page 2 →

“We will change our system of health. Previously, treatment became a luxury for the employed and those with the ability to pay for medical services, yet everyone becomes sick. And that is why I said we are changing our health system so that all Kenyans can get treatment,” he said at an event.

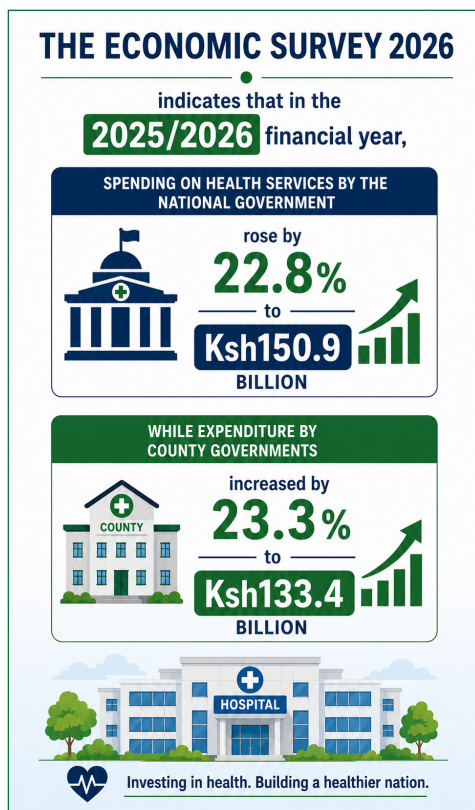
“That is why I said we are changing our health system. Under the previous system, NHIF, you were required to have a job and money to pay. Today, I have said every Kenyan should be registered under SHA.”

Consequently, by the end of the 2024/25 financial year, the continued campaign for expansion of health infrastructure led to about 21.0 million Kenyans being registered under SHA, with the highest uptake documented in populous and urban counties – Nairobi, Kiambu, Nakuru, Mombasa, and Kakamega.

More importantly, the Economic Survey 2026 shows that the number of operational health facilities increased by 4.6 per cent to 16,713 in 2025, fingering the trajectory on increase in Level 3 facilities from 3,518 in 2024 to 4,172 in 2025.

It adds that Level 4 health facilities similarly registered a growth from 1,119 in 2024 to 1,188 in 2025, while Level 5 health facilities expanded to 37 last year down from 28 in 2024. Level 6 health facilities, too, rose from six to seven over the same period.

“The total number of hospital beds increased from 101.3 thousand in 2024 to 104.3 thousand in 2025... Over the same period, the number of cots increased by



8.3 per cent to 12.2 thousand, with the highest growth being recorded in the private and public health facilities at 8.9 per cent and 5.3 per cent, respectively,” the report states.

Other salient indicators that the sector is expanding include the increased pool of skilled and competent workforce, exhibited by amplification of registered nurses by 12.7 per cent to 65.3 thousand in 2025.

According to the Economic Survey 2026, the number of middle-level medical trainees at the Kenya Medical Training College (KMTTC) rose by 25.9 per cent to 33.9 thousand in the 2024/25 academic year. This was majorly as a result of the 30.3 per cent rise in diploma trainees.

The growth also indicates that the investment in skilled labour is yielding fruits, with the survey

showing that morbidity cases from 2021 to 2025 declined from 79.6 million in 2024 to 79.5 million in 2025.

More importantly, majority of Kenyans have trusted the capabilities of trained personnel and trust the modernisation of the sector given that 98.6 per cent of the births registered in 2025 – which increased to 1,144.8 thousand – occurred in health facilities.

Under Vision 2030’s Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) 2023-2027, the government intends to boost health and wellness and enhance disease prevention and underlying social determinants of health through the Community Health High Impact Interventions Programme.

Cancer, which is the third leading cause of death in the country, has been highlighted as a priority issue.

MTP IV 2023-2027 underscores that health infrastructure investment targets to equip Kisumu regional cancer centre, construct radiotherapy bunkers and equip Meru, Kakamega, Machakos and Embu cancer facilities, and complete comprehensive cancer management centres in Kisii and Nyeri counties.

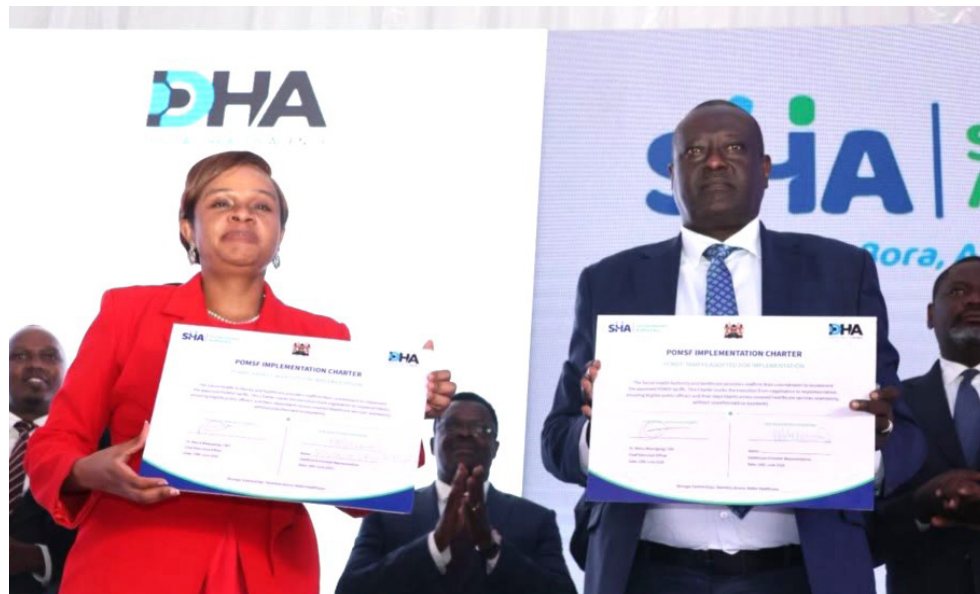
“We will change our system of health. Previously, treatment became a luxury for the employed and those with the ability to pay for medical services, yet everyone becomes sick. And that is why I said we are changing our health system so that all Kenyans can get treatment”

Additional interventions entail equipping hospitals through Managed Equipment Services and establishment of the National Public Health Institute.

It is on this backdrop that while presenting the 2026/2027 budget proposals before parliament on June 11, 2026, National Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi emphasised that intentional efforts have been directed towards combating cancer and other chronic illnesses.

CS Mbadi proposed to allocate Ksh3 billion to the Emergencies, Chronic and Critical Illness Fund, Ksh1 billion for construction of a cancer centre at Kisii Level 5 Hospital, Ksh300 million to strengthen Cancer Management in Kenyatta National Hospital and Ksh150 million for the expansion of Comprehensive Cancer Centre at Kenyatta University Teaching Referral & Research Hospital.

It adds that Level 4 health facilities similarly registered a growth from **1,119** in 2024 to 1,188 in 2025



The Social Health Authority (SHA) has strengthened healthcare access for public officers through the formalization of Public Officers Medical Scheme Fund (POMSF) service agreements with accredited healthcare providers and the rollout of biometric registration for dependents aged 7 to 17 years. PHOTO | SHA.

East Africa Kidney Institute set to reduce the burden of renal disease



BY JALANG'O ODIDI |
Milestone Badge

In Nairobi County, the construction of Phase I of the Ksh3.7 billion East Africa Kidney Institute (EAKI) is now complete, awaiting official commissioning.

The state-of-the-art facility, located near Kenyatta National Hospital in Kibra Constituency, is expected to transform kidney care in Kenya and the wider East African region by providing specialized treatment, advanced research, and professional medical training under one roof.

Positioned as a regional centre of excellence for nephrology and urology, the institute is designed to significantly reduce the burden of renal disease while minimizing the need for patients to seek expensive treatment abroad.

The facility is jointly operated by University of Nairobi and the East African Community, reflecting a strong commitment to regional collaboration in healthcare delivery and capacity building.

The modern medical complex features 160 beds, including 10 Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds and nine High Dependency Unit (HDU) beds.

It is also equipped with 28 dialysis machines, enabling the

provision of life-saving treatment for patients suffering from chronic kidney disease and other renal complications. Beyond dialysis services, the institute will offer comprehensive kidney care, including kidney transplantation, ensuring that patients can access highly specialized treatment within the country.

EAKI will provide a broad range of services covering both nephrology and urology. These include the management of urological emergencies, treatment of kidney and urinary tract stones through lithotripsy, surgery for benign prostate conditions, cancer-related procedures, and complex kidney transplant operations.

By integrating these services in one specialized centre, the institute aims to improve patient outcomes

The East Africa Kidney Institute (EAKI) is a major step towards achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) and access to quality and specialised healthcare. PHOTO | MoH.

while enhancing efficiency in healthcare delivery.

According to the Ministry of Health, the five-storey facility houses advanced laboratories, modern surgical theatres, training spaces, and more than 44 dialysis stations.

It has been designed with the capacity to conduct up to 300 kidney transplants annually, making it one of the most significant investments in specialized healthcare infrastructure in the region.

The institute will also support advanced training programmes in nephrology, urology, and renal medicine, helping to address shortages of specialised healthcare professionals.



The Principal Secretary for Medical Services Dr Ouma Oluga shares insights with officials during an inspection visit to the East Africa Kidney Institute (EAKI) on October 8, 2025. PHOTO | MoH.

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dialysis machines, enabling the provision of life-saving treatment for patients suffering from chronic kidney disease and other renal complications

Once operational, EAKI is expected to serve as both a national referral facility and a regional training hub for healthcare workers from across East Africa.

The institution is expected to strengthen regional cooperation in addressing the growing burden of non-communicable diseases, particularly chronic kidney disease, which continues to place significant pressure on health systems throughout the region.

The institute aligns closely with Kenya's Universal Health Coverage (UHC) agenda by expanding access to affordable and high-quality kidney care. Through support from the Social Health Authority, patients will be able to access coordinated and subsidized services, easing the financial burden associated with long-term renal treatment.

For thousands of patients and families, the facility promises shorter waiting times, reduced treatment delays, and an end to costly overseas referrals for specialized procedures.

The completion of the East Africa Kidney Institute represents more than a major infrastructure achievement; it marks a significant step forward in strengthening healthcare systems, expanding specialized medical services, and improving health outcomes across Kenya and the wider East African region.

In Machakos County, construction of the Matuu campus of the Kenya Medical Training College (KMTTC) in Yatta has been completed, marking a major milestone in efforts to expand medical education and healthcare capacity in the region.

The project includes modern classrooms, an administration block, student hostels, and other essential support facilities designed to provide a conducive learning environment for future healthcare professionals.



Inside one of the well-equipped surgical rooms. The upgraded hospital is expected to significantly reduce the number of patients referred to larger hospitals for emergency surgical procedures. PHOTO | PCS.



President William Ruto officially commissioned the Keroka Level IV Hospital in Kitutu-Masaba Constituency on August 13, 2024. PHOTO | PCS.

Major relief for Nyanza residents as State expands Keroka Level IV Hospital

BY JALANG'O ODIDI | Milestone Badge

In the Nyanza region, the national government's efforts to strengthen healthcare infrastructure have yielded significant progress, with one of the two major hospital projects already completed and operational. The two projects are in Kisii and Nyamira counties.

In Nyamira County, the Ksh400 million expansion and modernization of Keroka Level IV Hospital in Kitutu Masaba Constituency has been completed, marking a major milestone in the government's drive to improve access to quality healthcare services in the region.

The project, implemented by National Government, has transformed the facility into a modern healthcare center capable of handling a wide range of medical and surgical services.

The upgraded hospital is expected to significantly reduce the number of patients referred to larger hospitals for emergency surgical procedures, thereby lowering treatment costs and improving response times during medical emergencies.

During the launch of the upgrade of the health facility on August 13, 2024, President William Ruto officially, described it as a critical

investment in strengthening healthcare access under the Kenya Kwanza administration's Universal Health Coverage agenda.

According to the Ministry of Health, the upgraded hospital features a modern inpatient block, consultation clinics, a fully equipped maternity wing, antenatal and post-natal care units, a pediatric ward, and a newly constructed mortuary.

Additional support infrastructure includes a modern incinerator and an independent power supply house fitted with a standby generator to ensure uninterrupted healthcare services.

At the heart of the project are two ultra-modern operating theatres that are fully equipped and capable of handling both emergency and specialized surgical procedures.

The theatres are expected to reduce the burden on referral hospitals in Kisii, Kisumu, and other neighbouring counties by enabling more patients to access treatment closer to home.

The facility also boasts a three-storey medical complex constructed by the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF), comprising an outpatient department, an accident and emergency unit, two operating theatres, and separate male and female medical and surgical wards.

In addition, a two-storey administration block and a dedicated mother-and-child unit

have been constructed to improve service delivery and patient care.

The Keroka hospital project is among several healthcare infrastructure developments being undertaken by the KDF across the country as part of the Kenya Kwanza administration's broader strategy of expanding healthcare access and achieving Universal Health Coverage.

Kisii County

Kisii County is also set to benefit from one of the most ambitious healthcare projects in the region

through the construction of the Ksh2.3 billion Kisii County Cancer Treatment Centre.

The project, at the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital (KTRH) in Nyaribari Chache Constituency, is expected to revolutionise cancer care not only in Kisii County but across the larger Gusii region and Western Kenya.

The 76-bed specialized facility is designed to provide comprehensive cancer diagnosis, treatment, and management services under one roof. Patients will have access to advanced oncology care, including chemotherapy, radiotherapy, cancer surgery, pathology services, diagnostic imaging, and specialized consultations.

For years, cancer patients from Kisii, Nyamira, Migori, Homa Bay, and neighboring counties have been forced to travel hundreds of kilometers to Nairobi to seek treatment at Kenyatta National Hospital and other specialized facilities. The journeys often came with enormous financial costs, long waiting periods, and emotional strain for patients and their families.



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Uasin Gishu bags more State healthcare infrastructure projects in Rift Valley

A view of the AGC Tenwek Hospital. PHOTO | AGC Tenwek.

BY JALANG'O ODIDI |
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Uasin Gishu County has emerged as one of the key beneficiaries of the Kenya Kwanza administration's healthcare infrastructure development programme in the Rift Valley region.

The region has high-impact projects either completed or at advanced stages of implementation.

The healthcare infrastructure projects seek to strengthen specialised healthcare services and reinforce the country's referral healthcare system as spelt out in the Kenya Kwanza's five-pillar development blueprint, Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

Among the flagship projects completed in the county is the construction and equipping of a modern Children's Hospital at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) in Eldoret City at a cost of

Ksh150 million.

The facility represents a major milestone in paediatric healthcare delivery in Kenya and the wider East African region.

The government-run hospital provides comprehensive paediatric medical and surgical services for children from birth up to 14 years of age. It is equipped to handle a wide range of childhood illnesses, specialised treatments, surgical procedures, and emergency cases.

Notably, the facility is the first and only dedicated public children's

hospital in East and Central Africa, positioning Kenya as a regional leader in specialised paediatric healthcare.

The hospital is expected to serve thousands of children annually from across Kenya, easing pressure on existing paediatric units while improving access to quality child healthcare services.

Also completed at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital is the equipping of the maternity unit through the installation of

 Continued on page 7 →

Continued from page 6 →



Aerial view of the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Eldoret City. Equipping of the facility's maternal unit is complete. PHOTO | MTRH.

surgeries and other specialized procedures for patients from Kenya, East Africa, and beyond, while supporting the government's broader agenda of decentralizing specialized healthcare services and advancing Universal Health Coverage.

The projects in Uasin Gishu and Bomet counties underscore the Kenya Kwanza administration's commitment to strengthening healthcare infrastructure, expanding specialized medical services, and ensuring that quality healthcare is accessible to more Kenyans.

specialized medical equipment aimed at enhancing maternal and new-born healthcare services.

The project has strengthened the hospital's capacity to handle complicated deliveries, neonatal care, and obstetric emergencies, contributing to the government's efforts to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates.

The investments at MTRH reinforce its status as one of the country's premier referral and teaching hospitals and support the broader objective of expanding access to specialized healthcare services outside Nairobi.

Bomet County

In Bomet County, one of the most significant ongoing healthcare projects is the expansion of the Tenwek Hospital Cardiothoracic Centre, a Ksh2 billion initiative by the National Government.

The project seeks to establish one of the most advanced cardiac and thoracic treatment facilities in the region, significantly enhancing Kenya's capacity to manage complex heart and chest-related

conditions.

Once completed, the expansion will include a modern four-storey medical complex housing a 175-bed surgical centre designed to accommodate both local and international patients seeking specialized treatment.

The facility will feature five state-of-the-art cardiothoracic operating theatres, a hybrid operating room equipped for advanced surgical and interventional procedures, a fully equipped catheterization laboratory, and four endoscopy suites.

These specialised units will enhance the diagnosis, treatment, and management of cardiovascular and thoracic diseases, which continue to be among the leading causes of illness and death globally.

According to the Ministry of Health, the expanded centre will significantly reduce the number of patients seeking expensive treatment abroad while strengthening Kenya's position as a regional hub for specialized cardiac care. The project is expected to improve access to life-saving heart

The construction and equipping of a modern Children's Hospital at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital (MTRH) is a major milestone in paediatric healthcare delivery in the region. PHOTO | MTRH.

The government-run hospital provides comprehensive paediatric medical and surgical services for children from birth up to

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Inua Jamii safety net programmes enhance social inclusion, capital development



BY PHILIP MOMANYI |
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Delegates follow proceedings during the official launch of the Kenya Social Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP) Joint Review and Implementation Support Mission by PS Joseph Motari at Pride Inn Hotel, Mombasa on January 30, 2024. PHOTO | Joseph Motari.

The strengthened and sustained implementation of the Kenya Social and Economic Inclusion Project (KSEIP) is catalysing the growth of human capital and social welfare of majority of Kenyans, manifesting through improved quality of life.

KSEIP, which was launched in 2019, is so far catapulting the social strength of nearly three million households — translating to approximately 12 million individual citizens across the country — of vulnerable Kenyans, particularly women, girls, children, youth, persons with disability, street families and the elderly, by including them in the national planning and development agenda.

By working towards eradicating extreme poverty, providing access

to adequate jobs and skills for PWDs and women, in addition to making quality healthcare and education available, President William Ruto is determined to develop and sustain the country's human capital, which will ultimately improve the quality of life.

KSEIP is a five-year World Bank-funded project that aims at strengthening delivery systems for enhanced access to social and economic inclusion services and shock-responsive safety nets for poor and vulnerable households.

KSEIP is designed to complement and build on the government's flagship National Safety Net Programme (NSNP) that brings together four main cash transfer programmes: Older Persons Cash Transfer (OPCT), Persons with Severe Disability Cash Transfer (PWSD-CT), Cash

Transfer for the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (CT-OVC), and households facing recurrent shocks due to drought. All these programmes are commonly known as Inua Jamii.

“The Government is keen on investing in people through quality and affordable health care and education, and adequate jobs and skills to develop the country's human capital in an inclusive and sustainable manner,” Kenya Vision 2030's Fourth Medium Term Plan 2023-2027 report says.

According to the Plan, the social sector comprises six sub-sectors, namely: Health; Education; Labour and Social Protection;

The allocation comprises

Ksh24.6b
for cash transfers to elderly persons

Public Service, Performance and Delivery Management; Gender, Culture, the Arts and Heritage; and Youth and Sports.

National Budget

While presenting the year 2026-2027 Budget Statement in Parliament in June 2026, Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi recommended the allocation of Ksh41.8 billion for social protection programmes.

The allocation comprises Ksh24.6 billion for cash transfers to elderly persons, Sh8.9 billion for cash transfers to orphans and vulnerable children, and Sh1.5 billion for cash transfers to persons living with severe disabilities.

A further Ksh4.3 billion was allocated to the Kenya Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP),

Continued from page 8 →

which supports vulnerable households in arid and semi-arid areas affected by drought and food insecurity. In addition, Ksh550 million was proposed for the National Fund for the Disabled of Kenya, while the Child Welfare Society of Kenya will receive Sh1.1 billion.

CS Mbadi emphasises that the government is determined to reduce poverty, protect livelihoods, and promote inclusive economic growth by scaling up social protection interventions. CS Mbadi emphasised that the programmes will cushion vulnerable households.

“Social safety nets remain central to the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda objective of poverty reduction and inclusive growth. Strong safety nets protect livelihoods, create pathways out of poverty and enable economically excluded households to participate in productive activities,” CS Mbadi said.

KSEIP2

More importantly, with the completion of the first phase of the KSEIP I in December 2024, the government received a shot in the arm following World Bank’s approval of phase two of the project with a financial backing of Ksh16.5 billion (\$127.5 million) from the International Development Association (IDA) in June 2025.

According to World Bank, the development means that the millions of vulnerable individuals across the country will continue to achieve economic inclusion and support, while the country scales up its social protection systems and safety net support.

The KSEIP2 will build on the milestones and lessons learned from the relevant interventions implemented to enhance delivery systems for inclusive access to social and economic inclusion.

World Bank Division Director for Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, and

Uganda – Mr Qimiao Fan – said inclusive, people-centred growth is highly dependent on combatting poverty, improving food security, and promoting better living conditions for vulnerable groups.

“Inclusive growth and poverty reduction are realised when there are more and better jobs as well as more accessible jobs for the poorest and most vulnerable populations. The project’s innovative elements will prepare today’s children and adolescents for healthy and productive adulthoods, help poorer families with sustainable livelihood enhancement, and ensure that hard-won gains are not lost to food insecurity during the times of drought or other crises,” Mr Fan said. KSEIP2 has an implementation period of five years, with two main implementing agencies: the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, through the State Department for Social Protection and Senior Citizen

Affairs and the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA). The project is in line with the Constitution of Kenya (2010), Kenya’s Vision 2030, and Kenya National Social Protection Policy (2011).

The components of the initiative include, building human capital of children and adolescents, Climate Resilient Economic Inclusion, Systems Strengthening and Adaptive Social Protection, and Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Policy and Legislation.

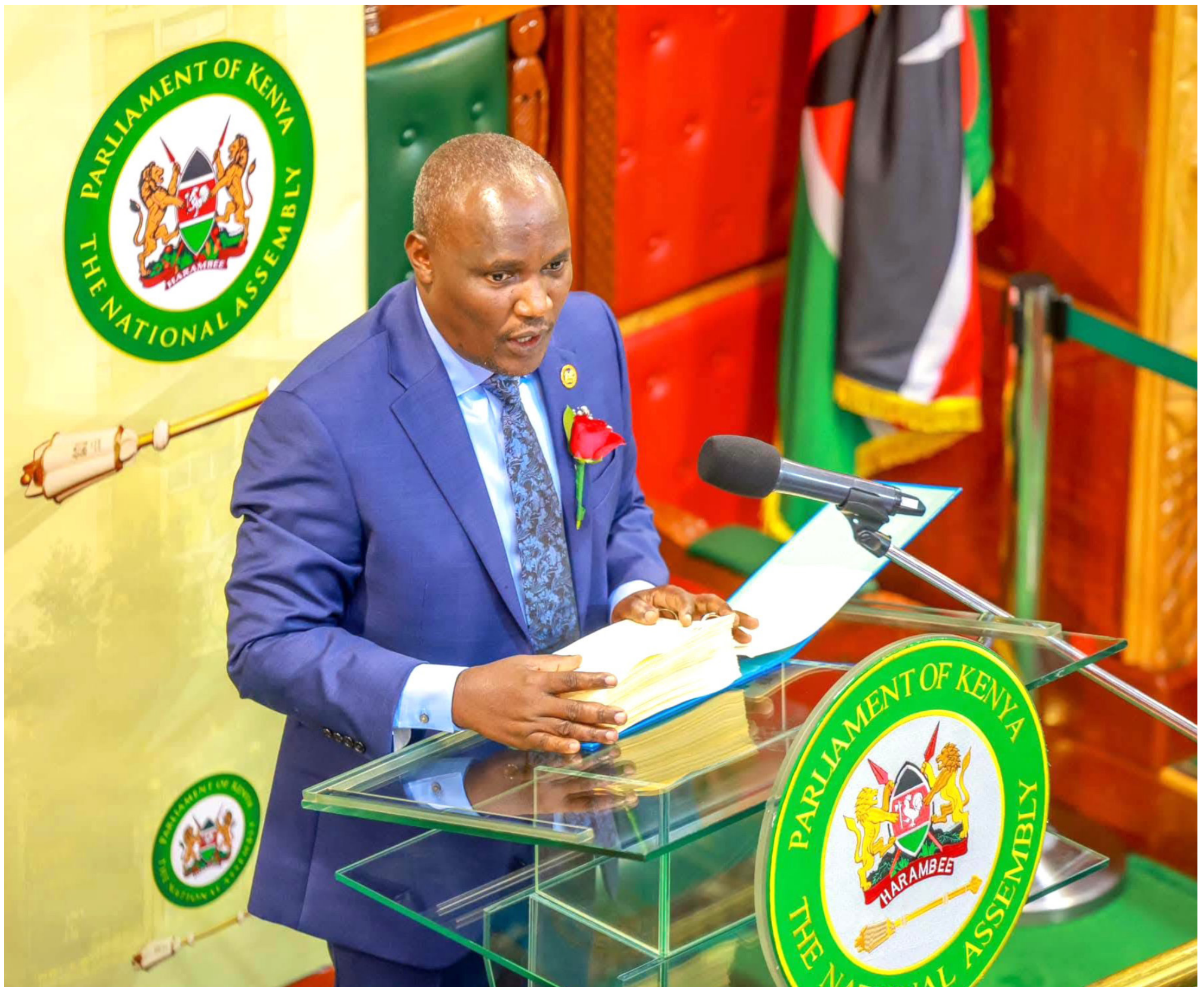
The first phase of KSEIP targeted to advance the wellbeing of children under two years and pregnant mothers, entailing provision of a cash top-up of Ksh500 per target child and/or pregnant woman, capped at Ksh1,000 per household per month and nutritional counselling to 18,500 beneficiaries.

Continued on page 10 →



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Continued from page 9 →

Labor Management Procedures, over the last decades, Kenya has made noteworthy improvements in economic growth resulting in the reduction of both poverty (from 47 percent in 2005 to 39 percent in 2023) and inequality from a Gini coefficient of 45 in 2005/06 to 39 in 2023.

“Beneficiary households of all programs must be poor but do not necessarily need to already be enrolled in NSNP to be eligible. Beneficiary households will be selected using ESR data to assess their poverty status along with other relevant eligibility criteria

for each respective programme,” the document states.

Additionally, KSEIP 2 Labor Management Procedures indicates that President Ruto pledged to expand the coverage of Inua Jamii to 2.5 million households in the next three years, the first phase of which is underway.

“

Beneficiary households of all programs must be poor but do not necessarily need to already be enrolled in NSNP to be eligible

Programme (HSNP) provides routine cash transfers of

Ksh2,330

per month (US\$18) to poor households in eight northern counties.

The Hunger Safety Net Programme (HSNP) provides routine cash transfers of Ksh2,330 per month (US\$18) to poor households in eight northern counties. The HSNP also has a shock-responsive component which provides Ksh2,700 per month to poverty-targeted households when their

National Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi on June 11, 2026 when he presented the Budget Statement for Financial Year 2026/2027 to the National Assembly. He recommended allocation of Ksh41.8 billion for social protection programmes. PHOTO | National Treasury.

sub-counties are affected by severe or extreme drought.

HSNP is implemented by the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) under the Ministry of East African Community, ASALs & Regional Development (MEACARD). Over 750,000 households are enrolled in the shock-responsive component and are eligible to receive this emergency assistance.

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Multi-Billion Dongo Kundu, Naivasha SEZ set to redefine Kenya's industrial future

BY OBED SIMIYU |
Milestone Badge

Kenya has taken what could prove to be one of the most consequential steps in its industrialisation journey after signing a landmark \$1 billion development lease agreement for the Dongo Kundu and Naivasha Special Economic Zones (SEZs), a move that the government says will unlock manufacturing growth, create more than 140,000 jobs and strengthen the country's position as a regional trade and investment hub.

President William Ruto presided over the signing ceremony in Mombasa between the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), the Special Economic Zones Authority (SEZA) and African Export-Import Bank, describing the agreement as a major milestone in Kenya's ambition to transform from a largely

consumption-driven economy into a manufacturing and export powerhouse.

The investment is expected to accelerate the development of industrial parks in Dongo Kundu, Mombasa County, and Naivasha, Nakuru County, two strategic locations that have long been identified as pillars of Kenya's industrialisation agenda under Vision 2030.

"This agreement fuels industrialisation, manufacturing and agro-processing, reinforcing Kenya's position as a regional export powerhouse," President Ruto said.

According to the President, the project is expected to generate more than 40,000 jobs at Dongo Kundu and a further 100,000 jobs in Naivasha once fully operational.

The agreement forms part of a broader \$3 billion Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Government of Kenya and

“
This agreement fuels industrialisation, manufacturing and agro-processing, reinforcing Kenya's position as a regional export powerhouse

Afreximbank in 2023 to facilitate private-sector participation in strategic infrastructure and industrial development.

New chapter

For decades, Kenya has sought to position itself as East Africa's manufacturing and logistics centre. While the country enjoys advantages such as a strategic location, a relatively diversified economy and access to regional markets, the manufacturing sector's contribution to Gross Domestic Product has remained below the targets envisioned under Vision 2030. Successive governments

have therefore promoted Special Economic Zones as a vehicle for attracting investment, increasing exports, creating jobs and transferring technology.

SEZs are specially designated areas where businesses enjoy a range of incentives, including streamlined regulations, world-class infrastructure and favourable investment conditions designed to enhance competitiveness.

According to the Special Economic Zones Authority, the zones are intended to promote export-oriented industries, logistics, technology development and value-added manufacturing.

The Dongo Kundu and Naivasha projects are among the most ambitious SEZ developments currently underway in Kenya and are expected to play a central role in the country's economic transformation. President

Continued on page 13 →



President William Ruto (in cowboy hat) acknowledges the signing of the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone Development Lease Agreement between the Kenya Ports Authority, the Special Economic Zones Authority and the African Export-Import Bank on February 28, 2025. PHOTO | Hassan Joho.

Continued from page 12



Senior government officials and delegates during the signing of the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone Development Lease Agreement between the Kenya Ports Authority, the Special Economic Zones Authority and the African Export-Import Bank on February 28, 2025. PHOTO | Hassan Joho.

strong. According to the President, KPA has received 97 applications seeking allocation of nearly 7,000 acres of land within the zone, while Afreximbank has secured 500 acres for the establishment of an integrated industrial park.

The anticipated industrial ecosystem will include manufacturing plants, warehousing facilities, logistics centres, export-processing industries and value-addition enterprises targeting both domestic and international markets.

For Kenya, this represents an opportunity to shift from exporting raw materials to exporting higher-value manufactured goods, thereby increasing foreign exchange earnings and creating more sustainable employment.



Industrial city taking shape

While Dongo Kundu leverages its proximity to the sea, the Naivasha Special Economic Zone derives its strength from logistics connectivity and access to affordable energy.

Located in Mai Mahiu near Naivasha, the zone sits alongside the Inland Container Depot (ICD), the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) terminus and major road corridors connecting Kenya to the wider East and Central African region.

Continued on page 14 →

key updates on land allocation within the KPA Zone

 KPA	 AFREXIMBANK
has received 97 APPLICATIONS seeking allocation of nearly 7,000 ACRES OF LAND within the zone.	has secured 500 ACRES OF LAND for the establishment of an INTEGRATED INDUSTRIAL PARK.

Kenya's emerging gateway

Located south of the Port of Mombasa, the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone has long been viewed as one of Kenya's most strategic industrial investments.

The zone benefits from its proximity to the Port of Mombasa, East and Central Africa's largest seaport, and is directly linked to major transport infrastructure including the Dongo Kundu Bypass, the Mombasa Southern Bypass and key regional road networks.

The government has invested heavily in supporting infrastructure around the zone, including roads, power connectivity, water systems and logistics facilities aimed at reducing the cost of doing business.

Japan and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) have played a critical role in the project's development through a concessional financing package worth approximately Ksh37 billion and a Ksh6 billion grant used to support infrastructure development within the Mombasa Special Economic Zone.

The significance of Dongo Kundu extends beyond Mombasa. The zone is expected to become a major industrial cluster serving not only Kenya but also neighbouring markets in Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Tanzania.

Already, investor appetite appears

Ruto said the zones will support manufacturing, agro-processing, pharmaceuticals, footwear production, petrochemicals, textiles, glass manufacturing and emerging sectors such as electric mobility.

"These investments will strengthen intra-African trade and empower micro, small and medium enterprises to compete effectively under the African Continental Free Trade Area framework," he explained.

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which creates the world's largest free trade area by number of participating countries, is expected to provide Kenyan manufacturers with access to a market of more than 1.4 billion people. The government believes the new industrial zones will position local firms to take advantage of these opportunities.

The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which creates the world's largest free trade area by number of participating countries, is expected to provide Kenyan manufacturers with access to a market of more than

1.4b
people.

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Continued on page 13 →

The strategic location allows goods arriving through the Port of Mombasa to be transported efficiently inland by rail before being distributed across regional markets.

Kenya Ports Authority notes that the Naivasha ICD serves transit markets including Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan, northern Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo, significantly reducing transportation distances and logistics costs.

Equally important is Naivasha's access to geothermal power from the Olkaria geothermal fields, one of the largest renewable energy resources in Africa.

The availability of reliable and relatively affordable green energy has become a major selling point for investors seeking sustainable manufacturing locations.

Government reports indicate that the Naivasha SEZ has already attracted multiple investors and continues to expand. The zone has reportedly grown from an initial 1,000 acres to approximately 6,000 acres to accommodate increasing investor demand.

Officials have projected that the zone could generate more than 100,000 jobs while supporting billions of shillings in private-sector investments.

Infrastructure supporting the development includes an industrial park, logistics facilities, water distribution systems, railway marshalling yards, power substations and the Inland Container Depot. Parliamentary oversight visits have highlighted growing investor interest and ongoing investment activity within the zone.

Impact and value

Economists generally view successful SEZs as catalysts for industrial growth because they create concentrated ecosystems where infrastructure, logistics, skills and capital are brought together.

The Dongo Kundu and Naivasha projects have the potential to deliver several benefits to Kenya.

First, they are expected to expand the country's manufacturing base. Kenya has historically relied heavily on agriculture and services, but industrialisation remains critical



Mining and Blue Economy CS Hassan Joho gestures during the signing of the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone Development Lease Agreement between the Kenya Ports Authority, the Special Economic Zones Authority and the African Export-Import Bank.
PHOTO | Hassan Joho.

for creating large-scale employment and increasing productivity.

Second, the zones are expected to boost exports through value addition. Manufacturing products such as textiles, footwear, pharmaceuticals, processed foods and industrial goods locally allows Kenya to capture more value than exporting raw materials.

Third, the zones could improve Kenya's trade balance by reducing dependence on imports and increasing export earnings.

Fourth, they are likely to attract foreign direct investment, technology transfer and specialised skills that can strengthen domestic industries.

Finally, the projects support Kenya's ambition to become a logistics and industrial gateway for the broader East African region.

The combination of the Port of Mombasa, the SGR, inland container depots and strategic industrial zones creates an integrated trade corridor stretching from the Indian Ocean deep into the African hinterland.

Opportunities and Challenges

Despite the optimism surrounding the projects, analysts caution that success will depend on total implementation.

Globally, Special Economic Zones succeed when they maintain efficient infrastructure, predictable policies, competitive operating costs and strong investor

confidence. Kenya has already invested billions of shillings in supporting infrastructure, but sustained funding, regulatory efficiency and investor support will remain essential. Government monitoring reports have identified challenges including funding constraints and land-related issues affecting some SEZ projects across the country.

Environmental sustainability will also be important, particularly in Naivasha where large-scale industrial development must be balanced with ecological considerations. Environmental assessment studies have recognised significant economic benefits while recommending safeguards to mitigate potential environmental impacts.

Nonetheless, many experts believe the fundamentals supporting both projects remain strong.

Dongo Kundu offers direct access to maritime trade routes and port infrastructure, while Naivasha combines regional connectivity with abundant renewable energy and logistics advantages.

The zone has reportedly grown from an initial 1,000 acres to approximately

6,000

acres to accommodate increasing investor demand.

Together, the two zones provide complementary strengths capable of reshaping Kenya's industrial geography.

Industrial future

For years, Dongo Kundu and Naivasha existed largely as ambitious plans on paper. With the signing of the new lease agreements and the entry of Afreximbank as a major development partner, both projects appear closer than ever to becoming operational industrial centres.

Afreximbank President and Chairman of the Board, Benedict Oramah, said the agreements would finally bring to life projects that had remained unrealised for decades.

"Today, the promise of Dongo Kundu Industrial Park and Naivasha Special Economic Zone, which had become uncertain for decades, has found a safe landing," he said.

If successfully implemented, the two zones could become among the most transformative economic projects in Kenya's modern history—creating jobs, attracting investment, expanding exports and strengthening the country's position as a leading manufacturing and trade hub for Africa.

Inside the Keroka Level 4 Hospital. Its completion is a major milestone in the government's drive to improve access to quality healthcare services in the region. PHOTO | PCS.



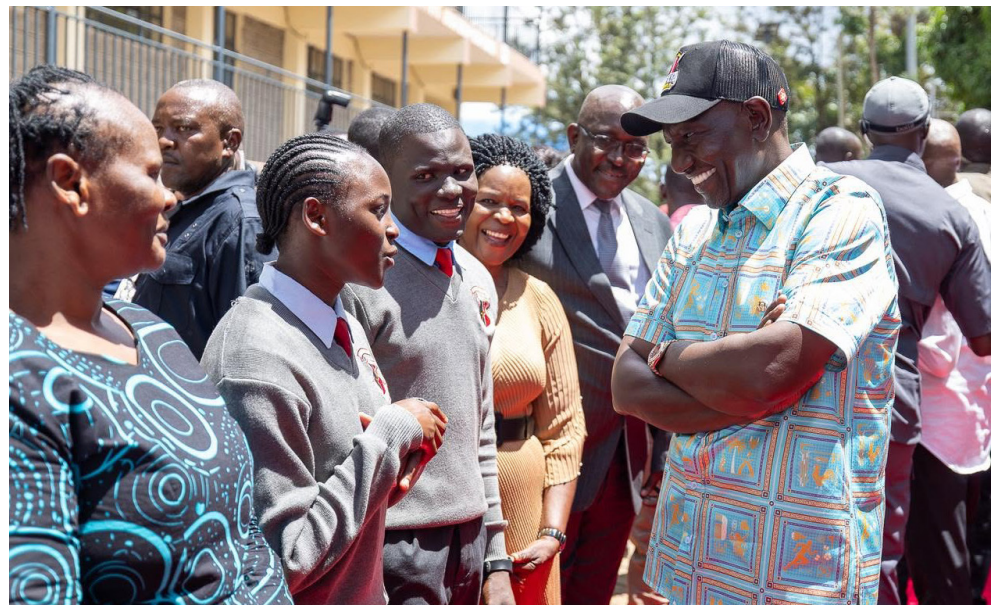
The Keroka Level 4 Hospital in Kitutu Masaba Constituency. PHOTO | PCS.



An aerial view of the Kangemi Primary and Junior School and the expansive estate neighbouring the institution. President William Ruto handed over to the school 16 new classrooms on February 25, 2026. PHOTO | PCS.



President William Ruto officially handed over 16 new classrooms to Kangemi Primary and Junior School in Westlands Constituency, Nairobi on February 25, 2026. PHOTO | PCS.



President William Ruto shares a light moment with a pupil at Ayany Primary School, Kibra, Constituency on April 28, 2026. PHOTO | PCS.

President William Ruto poses for a group photo following the signing of the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone Development Lease Agreement between the Kenya Ports Authority, the Special Economic Zones Authority and the African Export-Import Bank on February 28, 2025. PHOTO | Hassan Joho.



President William Ruto broke ground for the construction of the 76-bed Kisii County Cancer Treatment Centre in Nyaribari Chache Constituency on August 13, 2024. PHOTO | PCS.



National Youth Service (NYS) recruits during the official opening of the Recruits Cohort 1/2026 Course at the NYS Paramilitary Academy Gilgil and NYS Camp Naivasha on April 24, 2026. PHOTO | NYS.



Principal Secretary for Medical Services, Dr Ouma Oluga at the state-of-the-art East African Kidney Institute (EAKI), the region's first centre of excellence for kidney and urology care, offering 160 beds and 28 dialysis machines. PHOTO | MoH.



Learners at one of the 12 classrooms handed over to Naromoru Township Primary and Junior School by President William Ruto on April 1, 2025. PHOTO | PCS.

Major investments in TVET key to accelerating economic growth



BY PHILIP MOMANYI |
Milestone Badge

Consistent and sustained investment by the government in the Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) sector as part of robust interventions to boost economic growth, provide job creation and impart skills among the young people is making significant milestones.

The government, under President William Ruto, is making concerted and multi-pronged efforts to revitalise the sector that has so far demonstrated its potential to enhance human capital development by imparting 21 Century skills among young people that will boost economic competitiveness, improve social inclusion, combat perennial unemployment, increase entrepreneurship and empower vulnerable groups.

TVETS are playing a crucial role in meeting the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) that is pitched towards economic turnaround through a value chain approach to promote economic

recovery and growth. According to the government, TVET will evoke the youth's potential to contribute positively to the economy through skills and entrepreneurship gained from practical training.

The government has over the years made tangible steps to support the sector, from ensuring presence of trained and competent tutors, adequate infrastructure and resources, and sufficient number of institutions to accommodate all interested students across the 47 counties to affordable cost of the education.

The ambition was first actualised when President Ruto, in 2024, reinstated Technical and Vocational Education and Training Curriculum Development, Assessment and Certification Council (TVET-CDACC) as the institution mandated to design and develop Curricula for the training institutions' examination, assessment and competence certification.

Investment in TVET

The President said the move will ensure trainers are adequately assessed to make sure they

National Youth Service (NYS) new recruits plant trees on April 24, 2026 during the official opening of the Recruits Cohort 1/2026 Course at the NYS Paramilitary Academy Gilgil and NYS Camp Naivasha. PHOTO | NYS.

“
Without the requisite manpower, we cannot industrialise and achieve the Singapore dream

acquire the requisite skills and competencies. The responsibility had been transferred to the Kenya National Examinations Council (KNEC) in 2022 following the abolition of TVET-CDACC.

According to the Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) 2023-2027, which has been aligned to the aspirations of the Kenya Vision 2030 and BETA planning approach and its key priorities,

Other steps taken to modernise the sector include reducing annual tuition fee from Ksh105,000 to Ksh67,000 to improve affordability; tasking TVET-CDACC to manage technical examinations and certifications to ensure standards are aligned to industry demands and competencies; and collaborating with Italy and China to secure state-of-the-art equipment for up to 70 institutions.

Other efforts are harmonising the National Youth Service (NYS) and TVET frameworks to ensure youth acquire practical, hands-on experience ahead of joining the labour market.

National Youth Service

Prioritisation of the National Youth Service (NYS) programme shows that the number of recruited

Continued on page 18 →

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Continued from page 17 →

service men and women increased from 15,500 in 2024 to 19,496 in 2025. After graduation, the trainees are either absorbed into paramilitary training programmes or transition to national service.

In the period under review, the number of servicemen recruited was higher than that of servicewomen accounting for 73.1 per cent of the total recruitment. The number of servicemen and servicewomen who proceeded to paramilitary training increased by 23.1 per cent to 18,378 in 2025, while those who transitioned to national service rose by 29.0 per cent to 32,192 in the same period.

Further, the number of service men and women who joined Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in NYS increased by 9.0 per cent to 38,438 in 2025.

These data showcase that the government is not disenfranchising any group as far as access to skills and economic opportunities are concerned.

On March 10, 2026, President Ruto said more partnerships will be struck to improve accessibility by students. “The Ministry of Education has signed agreements with all counties. Now county govts can give bursaries to all our children. That is a step in making sure that we reduce the burden on parents on matters education,” he said.

According to the Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) 2023-2027, the Technical Vocational Education and Training Programme’s objective is

to increase access to TVET through construction and equipping of institutions in 52 constituencies, equipping 72 existing institutions, establishing incubation centres in every institution, and expanding online learning in TVETs.

Consequently, equipping trainees with emerging skills such as green energy, AI, and digital skills will boost environmental sustainability, expand uptake on renewable energy, promote localised solutions through innovation, thereby eradicating joblessness.

Currently, the State Department for Technical and Vocational Education and Training is pushing for 100% transition rate into TVETS among the youth.

The State Department deployed National Government Administration Officers to mobilise the youth to enrol in polytechnics for skills training. On June 17, 2026, Technical and Vocational Education and Training Principal Secretary Esther Mworira underscored that the institutions have the capacity to accommodate more trainees.

Prof Mworira highlighted the significance of TVET institutions in driving Kenya’s industrialisation

“

The Ministry of Education has signed agreements with all counties. Now county govts can give bursaries to all our children. That is a step in making sure that we reduce the burden on parents on matters education

agenda – popularly known as the Singapore dream – by providing skilled workforce.

According to a local media report, she said: “Without the requisite manpower, we cannot industrialise and achieve the Singapore dream.”

Sectoral growth

On that wavelength, the Economic Survey 2026 indicates that the sector grew by 13.4% to 3,126 in 2025, which is equivalent to 370 newly-accredited institutions from 2021 to 2025. Specifically, over the five-year period, the number of registered institutions rose from 2,173 in 2021 to 2,431 in 2022, 2,607 in 2023, and 2,756 in 2024.

The institutions are classified under Kenya School of TVET, national polytechnics, public technical and vocational colleges (TVCs), private TVCs, public VTCs, Private VTCs and special needs institutions. Before 2023, Kenya School of TVET (previously Kenya Technical Trainers College) was categorized as a National Polytechnic.

At the same time, as the number of institutions grew, so did the number of TVET trainers/instructors by gender between 2021 to 2025. As indicated in the survey, the number of trainers improved by 9.9 per cent to 21,833 in 2025.

Female Public Service Commission (PSC) trainers increased by 12.5 per cent to 7,871 while male PSC trainers increased by 8.4 per cent to 13,962 in 2025. Furthermore, PSC instructors in public technical and vocational colleges accounted for 53.8 per cent of the total trainers in TVET

institutions in the review period.

“During the review period, total enrolment in TVET institutions increased by 17.3 per cent to 825,484 in 2025. Enrolment in vocational training colleges dropped by 7.4 per cent to 147,680. Enrolment in private Technical and Vocational Colleges increased by 79.7 per cent to 196,790 mainly due to increased uptake of courses in private Technical and Vocational Colleges in the review period,” it states.

Budget allocation

The government is committed to provide adequate financial resources to ensure the sector does not stagnate if the recent budget allocation to the sector is anything to go by.

According to National Assembly Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi on June 11, 2026, of the Ksh784.5 billion proposed allocation to the Education sector in the 2026/2027 financial year, Ksh58.5 billion was reserved for TVET.

More importantly, as stated by Economic Survey 2026, access to TVET education has been on an uptick courtesy of bursaries and loans, rising by 8.3 per cent to 339.7 thousand in 2025/26, whereas the total number of TVET students loan applicants increased to Ksh323,683 in 2025/26 up from Ksh122,840 in 2024/25.

“Male loan applicants increased by 9.4 per cent to 197.8 thousand while female loan applicants increased by 6.9 per cent to 141.9 thousand in 2025/26,” the survey states.



National Youth Service (NYS) parade on April 24, 2026 during the official opening of the Recruits Cohort 1/2026 Course at the NYS Paramilitary Academy Gilgil and NYS Camp Naivasha. PHOTO | NYS.



Members of Parliament follow as National Treasury Cabinet Secretary John Mbadi presents Budget Statement for Financial Year 2026/2027 on June 11, 2026. He allocated Ksh58.5 billion for TVETs. PHOTO | National Treasury.



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ASAL counties, Nairobi bask in multi-million-shilling learning facilities' glory

BY JALANG'O ODIDI |
Milestone Badge

The Kenya Kwanza administration has continued to prioritise education as a key driver of social and economic transformation through substantial investments in infrastructure development across the country.

Guided by the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), the government has increased funding for the education sector to improve access to quality learning, expand institutional

President William Ruto addresses learners at Naromoru Township Primary and Junior School after he officially commissioned a newly constructed tuition block on April 1, 2025. PHOTO | PCS.

capacity, and create a conducive environment for students and teachers.

The National Government has undertaken numerous projects in primary schools, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions, and universities.

These initiatives are aimed at supporting the implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC), improving technical skills training, and expanding opportunities for higher education.

Nationally, the government has constructed classrooms to support the transition of learners under the CBC and Competency-Based Education (CBE) frameworks while addressing classroom shortages and congestion in learning institutions.

West Pokot County

West Pokot County is among the regions that have significantly benefited from the government's education infrastructure programme. The National Government has constructed a total of 157 Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) classrooms

across the county under Phase One and Phase Two of the classroom expansion programme.

The project, which cost Ksh123.7 million, has been implemented in various schools distributed across the county's sub-counties to ensure equitable access to quality learning facilities.

The newly built classrooms are designed to provide modern, safe, and learner-friendly environments that support effective teaching and learning.

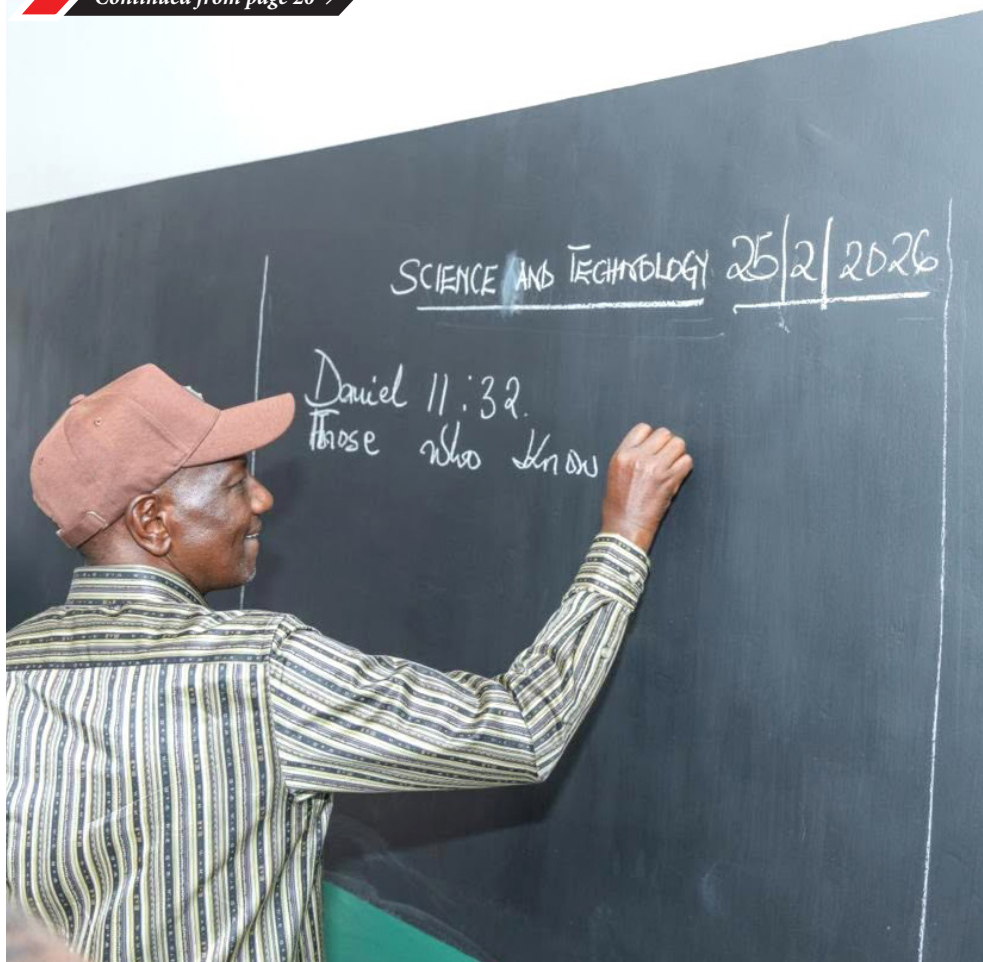
According to the Kenya Kwanza administration, the classrooms are strategically located to facilitate the smooth transition of learners into Junior Secondary School and Senior Secondary School levels under the CBC system.

The facilities are helping to address challenges associated with overcrowding while providing adequate space for practical and interactive learning, which is a key component of the competency-based approach.

The classroom programme forms part of President William Ruto's broader national education



Continued from page 20 →



initiative implemented through the Executive Office of the President.

The programme seeks to strengthen foundational education and ensure that learners across all regions, including marginalized and arid areas, have access to quality educational facilities.

Wajir County

In Wajir County, the National Government has invested heavily in technical and vocational education to equip young people with practical skills that can enhance employability and entrepreneurship.

A major milestone has been the completion of a workshop, office block, and washroom facilities at Wajir East Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College at a cost of Ksh82.3 million.

The institution offers courses in Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Electrical Engineering, Business Management, and other market-driven programmes aimed at preparing students for opportunities in the modern economy. The new facilities have significantly improved the college's capacity to deliver

quality technical training by providing modern learning spaces and practical training areas.

Workshops are particularly important in TVET institutions because they allow students to gain hands-on experience that complements classroom instruction.

According to Government Spokesperson Isaac Mwaura, the development of Wajir East TVET is part of the National Government's broader strategy to expand access to technical education in underserved regions.

The project aligns with the government's commitment to empowering youth through skills development and reducing unemployment by producing graduates equipped with industry-relevant competencies.

The investment is also expected to boost local economic development by creating a skilled workforce capable of supporting infrastructure development, business growth, and innovation within the county and the wider northeastern region.

Marsabit County

In Marsabit County, the Kenya Kwanza administration has focused

ONE NOTABLE PROJECT



is the renovation of

10 CLASSROOMS

at

Tiigo Primary School

in North Horr Constituency

at a cost of

Ksh2.7 MILLION



on improving learning conditions through the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing educational facilities.

One notable project is the renovation of 10 classrooms at Tiigo Primary School in North Horr Constituency at a cost of Ksh2.7 million. The renovation works included wall plastering, floor improvements, painting, and the installation of secure doors and windows.

The project has transformed the learning environment for pupils by making classrooms safer, more comfortable, and more conducive to learning. Prior to the renovations, some of the facilities had deteriorated due to age and harsh weather conditions common in the region.

The improvements are expected to enhance learner attendance, boost morale among pupils and teachers, and contribute to better educational outcomes. The project also demonstrates

President William Ruto at Kangemi Primary and Junior School in Westlands Constituency, Nairobi, after he handed over 16 new classrooms on February 25, 2026. PHOTO | PCS.

Continued on page 22 →

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President William Ruto is shown around after opening a workshops' block at PC Kinyanjui Technical Training Institute, Dagoretti South Constituency, Nairobi on March 3, 2026. PHOTO | PCS.

the government's commitment to ensuring that learners in remote and arid areas benefit from quality educational infrastructure.

Kitui County

In Kitui County, the National Government has made significant investments in higher education

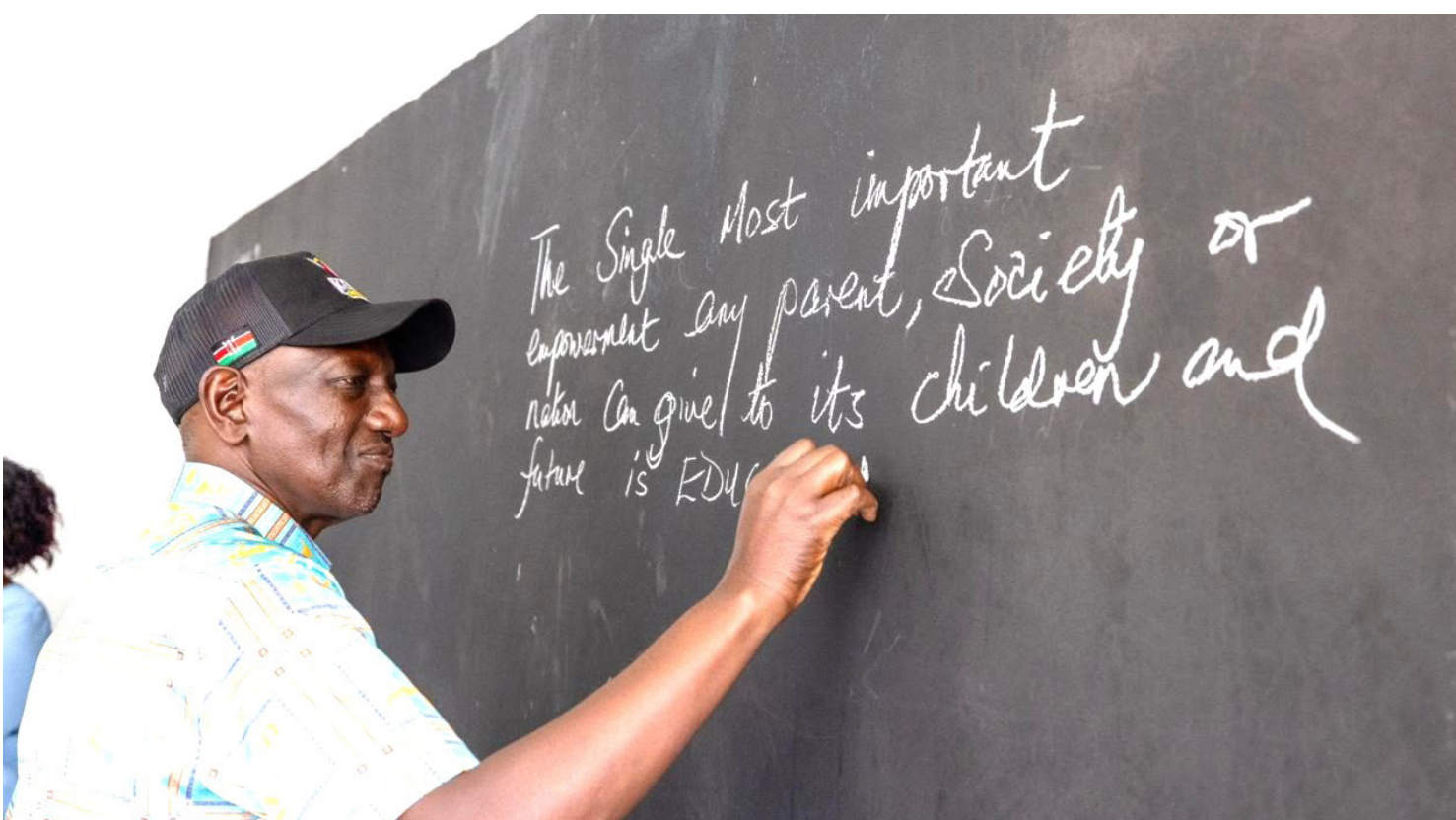
infrastructure through the expansion of facilities at South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU).

The government has completed

the construction of modern lecture halls for the School of Humanities and Social Sciences at a cost of Ksh423 million. The project, implemented at the university's main campus in Kitui West Constituency, is part of a wider programme aimed at expanding capacity in public universities to accommodate increasing student enrolment. The new lecture halls provide modern teaching and learning spaces equipped to support large student populations while enhancing the overall academic experience.

The facilities are expected to improve the delivery of academic programmes by providing a conducive environment for lectures, seminars, research activities, and academic engagements.

The investment at SEKU is one of several National Government infrastructure projects targeting universities across the country.



President William Ruto pens a message to Kenyans after he officially opened the Ayany Primary School Classrooms Block, Kibra, Constituency on April 28, 2026. PHOTO | PCS.

Continued on page 23 →

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By expanding lecture facilities and academic spaces, the government aims to strengthen higher education institutions, improve access to university education, and support research and innovation.

Nairobi County

In Nairobi, Kamukunji Technical and Vocational College (KTVC) has benefitted from Ksh53 million infrastructural improvement by the National Government.

The institution in Kamukunji Constituency offers comprehensive training programs in construction technology, building, and civil engineering.

The National Government has also expanded Kasarani Technical and Vocational College (KTVC). The project included the construction of a new academic block and expansion of student hostels.

The projects undertaken in West

Pokot, Wajir, Marsabit, Nairobi and Kitui counties underscore the Kenya Kwanza administration’s commitment to transforming the education sector through targeted infrastructure development.

From CBC classrooms and primary school renovations to TVET workshops and university lecture halls, these investments are creating opportunities for learners at all levels of education.

Beyond improving access to learning, the projects are helping to bridge regional disparities, strengthen technical and professional training, and support the development of human capital needed to drive Kenya’s economic growth.

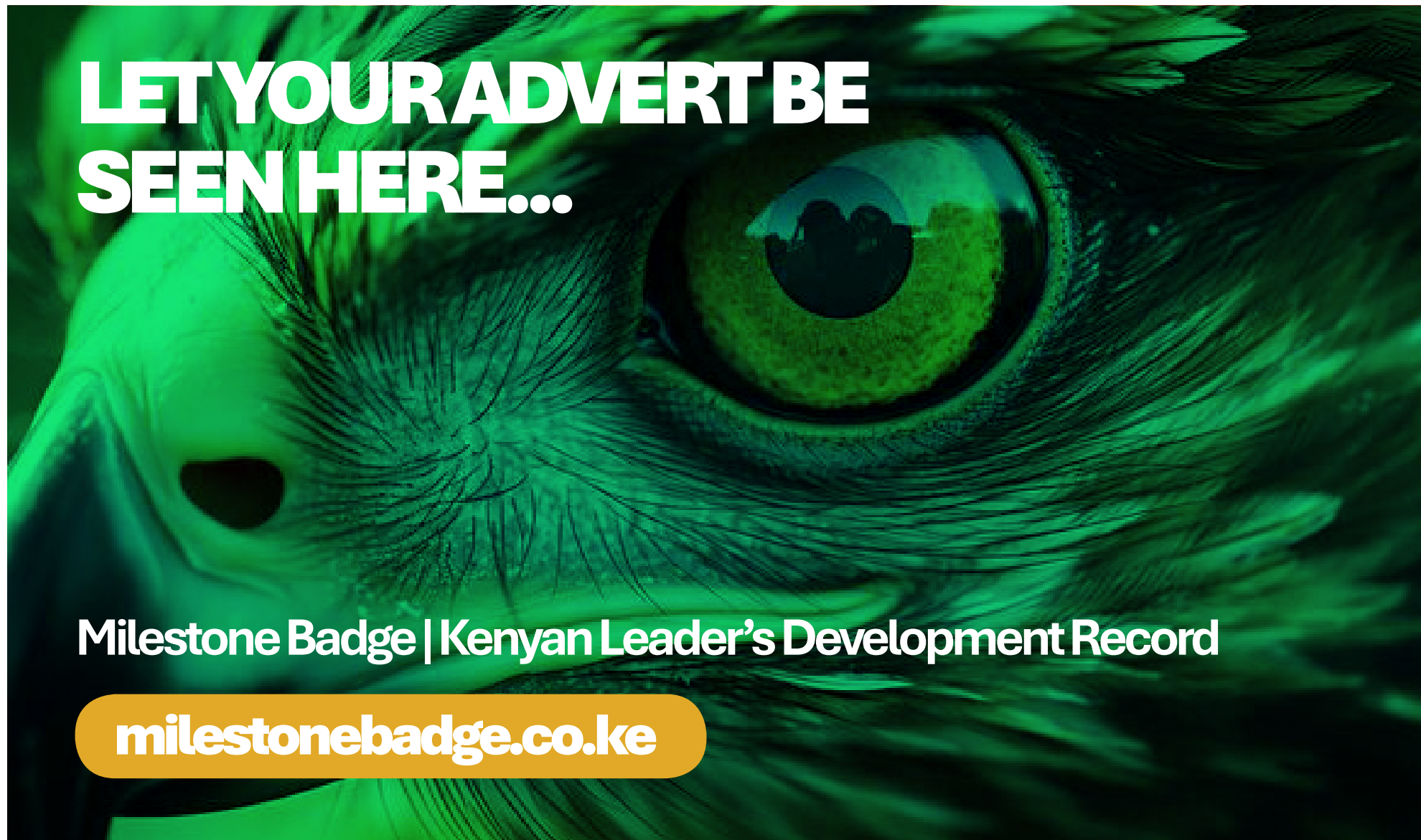
As the government continues implementing the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda, education infrastructure remains a central pillar in building a skilled, productive, and globally competitive workforce for the future.





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From CBC classrooms and primary school renovations to TVET workshops and university lecture halls, these investments are creating opportunities for learners at all levels of education.



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State expands education infrastructure in Western, Nyanza through strategic investments

BY JALANG'O ODIDI |
Milestone Badge

Over the last three years, the Kenya Kwanza administration has placed significant emphasis on strengthening education infrastructure across the country through targeted development

projects.

These investments form a key pillar of the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which seeks to enhance access to quality education, expand higher learning capacity, improve training facilities, and create a conducive environment for students and

educators.

The government's education infrastructure programme is aimed at addressing long-standing challenges such as overcrowded classrooms, inadequate learning facilities, and limited access to technical and university education.

As part of this initiative, the national government has constructed new classrooms across the country, helping to accommodate growing student populations and improve the quality of learning.

The projects have also supported the government's commitment to strengthening Technical and Vocational Education and Training



A section of the Eburngwe Technical and Vocational Centre in Vihiga County. PHOTO | Omboko Milemba.

 Continued on page 25 →

Continued from page 24 →

(TVET) institutions and expanding university infrastructure to meet increasing demand for higher education.

Bungoma County

In Bungoma County, several key projects have been completed to enhance access to quality technical education and improve learning conditions for students.

One of the flagship projects is the completion of Phase 2A of a modern tuition block at Musakasa Technical Training Institute in Bumula Constituency.

The National Government invested Ksh27 million in the project, which comprises spacious lecture rooms, halls, administrative offices, and modern washroom facilities.

The new infrastructure is expected to significantly improve the learning environment for students while enabling the institution to enroll more trainees in various technical courses.

The project is part of the government's broader strategy to strengthen TVET institutions as centers of skills development and innovation. By providing modern facilities, the government aims to equip young people with practical skills that can enhance employability and support industrial growth.

In Kanduyi Constituency, the government has also completed the construction of 12 classrooms at Kisiwa Technical and Vocational College at a cost of Ksh36 million. The additional classrooms have expanded the institution's capacity to admit more students and offer a wider range of technical and vocational courses.

The development is expected to play a critical role in nurturing skilled manpower needed for national development while providing local youth with opportunities for training and employment.

creating a conducive environment for learning and student interaction.

The first floor accommodates deans' offices and general administrative spaces, while the upper floors provide additional offices, meeting rooms, and support facilities necessary for efficient university operations.

The project is expected to transform Alupe University into a leading center of higher learning in the region by enhancing administrative efficiency, improving academic delivery, and creating space for future growth.

It also reflects the government's commitment to expanding access to university education and strengthening institutions that contribute to research, innovation, and human capital development.

“

The new classrooms have enhanced the institution's capacity to accommodate more learners and provide a conducive environment for technical training.

Busia County

In neighboring Busia County, the National Government has undertaken one of the region's most significant higher education infrastructure projects at Alupe University in Teso South.

The government invested Ksh1.1 billion in the construction of a modern administration block and lecture theatre aimed at supporting the university's rapidly growing student population.

The eight-storey building has been strategically designed to accommodate increasing enrolment and ease pressure on existing facilities.

The ground floor houses large lecture halls and a cafeteria,

Vihiga County

Vihiga County has also benefited substantially from the government's education infrastructure programme. Out of five major education projects being implemented by the National Government in the county, two have already been completed, providing modern facilities that are improving access to quality education.

In Emuhaya Constituency, the government completed the construction of a 12-classroom complex at Ebungangwe Technical and Vocational Centre at a cost of Ksh29.5 million.

The new classrooms have enhanced the institution's capacity to accommodate more learners and provide a conducive environment for technical training.

The facility is expected to support the government's efforts

to expand TVET education and equip young people with market-relevant skills.

Another notable project is at Kaimosi Friends University (KAFU) in Hamisi Constituency, where the National Government constructed a modern anatomy and optometry laboratory at a cost of Ksh19.8 million.

The state-of-the-art facility is located at the university's main campus and is designed to strengthen healthcare training programmes by bridging theoretical learning with practical experience.

The laboratory serves as a central hub for the School of Health Sciences and is equipped to support students pursuing Clinical Medicine, Nursing, and other health-related courses. By providing hands-on training opportunities, the

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Continued from page 25 →



facility enhances students' competence and preparedness for professional practice in the healthcare sector.

The investment is expected to contribute significantly to the development of healthcare professionals in the region while supporting the government's broader objective of improving health service delivery through quality medical education.

Homa Bay County

In Homa Bay County, the national government has constructed an administration block and a lecture theatre at a cost of Ksh1.2 billion.

The seven-story complex is designed with a 10,000-student capacity, multiple lecture rooms, and four large amphitheatres.

Kisii County

In Kisii county, an ICT centre at Kisii University has been completed at a cost of Ksh984 million.

The ICT Centre serves as the central hub for technological infrastructure, digital learning, and administrative software management across the entire institution.

Located at the Main Campus, the center hosts the university's core tech department and provides critical spaces for the School of Information Science and Technology.

Also completed at Kisii University is a lecture theatre with 'breakaway' rooms at a cost of Ksh527.3 million. The 'breakaway' or syndicate rooms are primarily

reserved for university senate meetings.

The education infrastructure projects in Bungoma, Busia, Vihiga, Homa Bay and Kisii counties demonstrate the Kenya Kwanza administration's commitment to strengthening learning institutions across all levels of education.

Through strategic investments in classrooms, laboratories, lecture theatres, and administrative facilities, the government is creating an enabling environment for learning, research, innovation, and skills development.

As the implementation of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda continues, these projects are expected to increase enrollment, improve educational outcomes, enhance workforce readiness, and

The main entrance of Musakasa Technical Training Institute in Bungoma County. PHOTO | courtesy.

contribute to socioeconomic development across the country.

By investing in modern education infrastructure, the government is laying a strong foundation for a more skilled, competitive, and productive generation capable of driving Kenya's future growth and prosperity.

The seven-story complex is designed with a

10,000

-student capacity, multiple lecture rooms, and four large amphitheatres

Also completed at Kisii University is a lecture theatre with 'breakaway' rooms at a cost of

Ksh527.3m



Milestone Badge is a next-gen platform dedicated to documenting completed development projects, reforms, and public welfare programmes delivered by Kenyan leaders since 2013.

We are now seeking a highly respected and intellectually grounded Columnist to help shape the national conversation around development, accountability, and measurable leadership outcomes.

THE ROLE

This is not a conventional opinion-writing position.

We are looking for a contributor capable of interpreting verified development outcomes within broader local, regional, and global economic realities.

The ideal columnist will help readers understand:
 What completed projects actually mean for economic growth.
 How infrastructure influences national transformation.
 Why development documentation matters.
 How governance translates into measurable public outcomes.
 Where Kenya stands within global development trends.

WHO WE ARE LOOKING FOR

We are seeking an individual with:
 Deep understanding of economic development and public policy.
 Strong analytical and editorial writing skills.

Exceptional understanding of governance, infrastructure, and institutional development.
 Ability to translate complex development issues into accessible public language.
 Strong credibility and intellectual independence.
 A fact-driven and non-partisan approach to analysis.

WHAT MAKES THIS ROLE DIFFERENT

At Milestone Badge:
 We do not publish political promises.
 We do not amplify projections.
 We do not promote campaign rhetoric.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Qualified candidates should submit:
 A detailed CV.
 Links or samples of previously published work.
 A brief statement outlining their perspective on development accountability in Kenya.

Send applications to: milestonebadge@grayiq.net

Milestone Badge: A new dawn in documenting what Kenyan leaders have delivered

In every election cycle, Kenyans are flooded with promises. Manifestos are launched, pledges are repeated, and ambitious development plans dominate political communication. Yet years later, citizens are often left asking a simple but powerful question: What was actually done?



Milestone Badge platform logo. PHOTO | Milestone Badge

That question sits at the heart of Milestone Badge - a groundbreaking Kenyan platform designed to systematically capture, verify, document, and communicate completed development achievements by leaders across the country.

Instead of amplifying political rhetoric, the platform focuses strictly on outcomes that citizens can see, verify, and measure.

Its philosophy is direct and uncompromising: If it is not completed and verifiable, it does not appear on Milestone Badge.

That principle alone distinguishes the platform in an era where political communication is increasingly shaped by projections, announcements, and promises rather than completed delivery.

Milestone Badge is not built around speculation. It does not publish campaign pledges, planned projects, or proposed reforms. Instead, it serves as a digital archive of completed roads, hospitals, schools, electricity projects, housing programmes, business infrastructure, technological advancements, employment initiatives, and public welfare reforms delivered across Kenya since 2013.

At its core, the platform is designed to help citizens clearly connect leadership with measurable impact on the ground.

Using advanced artificial intelligence systems, Milestone

Badge captures, analyses, verifies, and documents development achievements across sectors and regions. The information is then transformed into structured, standardized reports published every two weeks. These reports are distributed directly to citizens through downloadable digital formats and WhatsApp, ensuring accessibility beyond traditional media channels.

This direct-to-citizen approach is one of the platform's most disruptive features. By delivering reports straight to mobile devices, Milestone Badge minimizes distortion, eliminates gatekeeping, and places verified information directly in the hands of the public.

Equally significant is the platform's audience segmentation capability.

Reports can be distributed according to specific regions such as Rift Valley, Western, Coast, or Nairobi, as well as county-level or even constituency-level and custom audience targeting. This ensures citizens receive information that is directly relevant to their local realities and development context.

The platform's reporting structure revolves around key development pillars that shape everyday life in Kenya. These include physical infrastructure such as roads, stadiums, schools, hospitals, boreholes, and housing projects; electricity and renewable energy; digital and

technological infrastructure; jobs and employment; business and trade infrastructure; human development programmes; and broader development impact indicators.

In many ways, Milestone Badge represents an evolution in public accountability. It shifts political evaluation away from speeches and narratives toward documented evidence and completed outcomes. For citizens, researchers, institutions, and voters, it creates a centralized and searchable repository of development records that can be referenced long after political campaigns end.

The platform also introduces continuity into development communication. With bi-weekly publication cycles and organized digital archiving, Milestone Badge gradually builds a long-term chronological record of national progress and leadership performance.

Importantly, this initiative arrives at a time when trust in information ecosystems is increasingly under pressure. The rise of misinformation, polarized political discourse,

and fragmented digital narratives has made verification more critical than ever. By combining AI-powered analysis with structured verification systems, Milestone Badge positions itself as a credibility-first platform in Kenya's development reporting.

Its model reflects a broader global shift toward data-driven transparency and evidence-based public engagement. Citizens no longer want to hear only what leaders intend to do; they want to understand what has already been accomplished, where it was done, who benefited, and whether the results are tangible.

Milestone Badge responds to that demand with clarity and structure.

By focusing on verified outcomes rather than political noise, the platform is not merely publishing reports - it is helping redefine the relationship between leadership, accountability, and public information.

In a country where development stories are often debated, Milestone Badge seeks to ensure they are also documented, verified, and accessible to every citizen.

Healthcare boost as State completes two hospital expansion projects in Western region



Bungoma County Woman Representative Catherine Wambilianga poses for a group photo with patients at Naitiri Sub County Hospital in Tongaren Constituency on February 7, 2025. PHOTO | Catherine Wambilianga.

BY JALANG'O ODIDI |
Milestone Badge

Health remains one of the key pillars of the Kenya Kwanza administration, with President William Ruto placing healthcare reforms at the center of his government's development agenda.

Through strategic investments in health infrastructure, medical equipment, and healthcare financing, the administration is working to ensure that quality healthcare services are accessible to all Kenyans.

President Ruto's healthcare philosophy is anchored on the belief that access to medical services is a fundamental right and not a privilege reserved for a few.

His administration has therefore prioritized the implementation of Universal Health Coverage (UHC), the operationalization of the Social Health Authority (SHA), and the strengthening of community-based and primary healthcare systems across the country.

To support these reforms, the

national government embarked on an ambitious programme of constructing new health facilities, upgrading existing hospitals, expanding specialized medical services, and improving healthcare infrastructure.

These investments are aimed at reducing the burden on referral hospitals, bringing services closer to wananchi, and improving health outcomes.

Bungoma County

In Bungoma County, the National Government, has undertaken significant investments geared towards improving healthcare delivery.

Rather than focusing solely on the construction of entirely new hospitals, the government has prioritized the expansion, modernisation, and equipping of existing facilities to improve service delivery.

One of the flagship projects in the county is the expansion of Naitiri Sub-County Hospital in Tongaren Constituency.

The project, which cost approximately Ksh100 million,

The project involves the construction of an ultra-modern hospital complex with a

750
bed capacity.

has been completed and is already transforming healthcare services in the region.

The expansion works included the construction of a modern Mother and Child Health Unit, a fully equipped maternity theatre, as well as new male and female wards.

The upgraded facility now offers improved inpatient and maternal healthcare services, reducing the need for residents to travel long distances in search of specialised treatment.

The modernized hospital complex is expected to significantly improve healthcare outcomes for mothers, children, and vulnerable populations while easing congestion in neighboring facilities.

Trans Nzoia County

Trans Nzoia County is another beneficiary of the government's

healthcare transformation agenda through the expansion and modernization of Kitale County Referral Hospital.

The multi-billion-shilling Level 5 hospital, located on the outskirts of Kitale Town, is one of the largest health infrastructure projects in the region.

With a bed capacity of 350, the facility is designed to serve not only residents of Trans Nzoia County but also patients from neighbouring counties.

The hospital boasts state-of-the-art medical amenities and specialized treatment units aimed at reducing referrals to distant facilities such as Eldoret Teaching and Referral Hospital.

Health experts say the expansion of Kitale County Referral Hospital will play a critical role in improving emergency response, specialized treatment, and overall healthcare access in the region.

The facility is also expected to reduce patient congestion at major referral hospitals while lowering healthcare costs for families who previously had to travel long distances for specialized care.

Ongoing projects

Beyond Bungoma and Trans Nzoia, several counties in the Western region are also witnessing major healthcare infrastructure upgrades under the Kenya Kwanza administration.

In Kakamega County, the ongoing project includes the expansion and equipping of Kakamega County Referral Hospital at a cost of Ksh500 million. The project involves the construction of an ultra-modern hospital complex with a 750bed capacity.

In Vihiga County, the construction of a hospital plaza at Vihiga County Referral Hospital is 50 percent complete.



Advertise on **Milestone Badge** – a platform dedicated to documenting development projects, reforms, and public welfare programmes delivered by Kenyan leaders. It connects you to a high-value, forward-thinking audience.

WHAT'S THEIR DEVELOPMENT TRACK RECORD?



Milestone Badge brings you verified reports on completed development projects, reforms, and public welfare programmes **delivered by all Kenyan leaders since 2013.**

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