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KENYAN LEADERS' DEVELOPMENT RECORD

ISSUE NO. 002

Inside Ruto's Housing and Market projects

This is the first report documenting housing and market projects completed under William Ruto. Subsequent volumes will provide updated records as more projects are completed.



Nyanza residents achieve homeownership dreams as state completes projects

By Phillip Momanyi



President William Ruto when he officially commissioned the Mabera Affordable Houses in Migori County on March 23, 2026. PHOTO | PSCU.

The successful completion of two affordable housing projects in Nyanza has facilitated steady urban growth, eased the housing pressure, and ensured orderly settlement in the regions.

The Homa Bay Affordable Housing Project (phase 1) and Mabera Affordable Housing estate in Kuria West, Migori County, have transformed the regions socially and economically, ensuring community safety and structured habitation.

The Homa Bay Affordable Housing Project (phase 1) is a 110-unit estate built on 1.5 acres of land provided for by the County Government.

The project is a collaboration between the county government and the National Housing Corporation (NHC), and it is strategically located along the Kisumu-Homa Bay highway.

The project was constructed, and comprises 40 one-bedroom, 38 two-bedroom and 30 studio apartments.

The estate incorporates a dedicated safe, open-air zone for recreation.

President William Ruto launched the project in November 2022 at a cost of Ksh227 million and commissioned it for occupancy in June 2025.

Decency And Dignity

The project was a major milestone for Homa Bay residents, especially those from low economic households, who benefited from various jobs particularly artisanal.

The project created over 2,000 employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled local workers. Further, the project injected capital into Homa Bay County and the surrounding areas courtesy of sourcing for materials in the region.

The project injected Ksh11 million into welding contracts and an additional Ksh1 million into a local women's group involved in landscaping.

While commissioning the estate in May 2025, President Ruto hailed the county government from providing

land and facilitating prompt building approvals that paved way for the construction.

"Every sector of our society is represented in this programme of affordable housing to make sure that every citizen has a chance to live in a decent place and to live in dignity. It is a programme for transforming livelihoods," he said.

During the ceremony, residents, who included retired ECDE teachers, lecturers, fish mongers and boda boda riders hailed the government for enabling them to become homeowners.

Going Green

The project, by including a social allocation, seeks to absorb low-income families who may not afford deposits but desire to own homes. It also won an award for best incorporation into the green environment of optimising water and energy.

The residential units were allocated for sale across three bands: social, market, and affordable. For

the studio apartment (28 sqm), the social price is Ksh896,000 with a monthly rent-to-own of Ksh5,040, while the affordable housing costs Ksh1,400,000 at a monthly rent of Ksh10,118.

The one-bedroom one goes for Ksh2,150,000 with a monthly rent of Ksh15,539, while the market one goes for Ksh2,580,000 with a monthly rent of Ksh22,748.

The two-bedroom one in affordable housing goes for Ksh3,200,000 with a rent of Ksh23,128, while the market one goes for Ksh3,840,000 with the rent of Ksh33,856.

The two studio-cum-Shops (64 sqm), affordable one goes for Ksh3,200,000, with rent of 23,128 while the market one goes for Ksh3,840,000 with a rent of Ksh33,856.

Mabera Project

The Mabera Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) is in Kuria West constituency, Migori County. The estate has 60 modern residential units that consist of one-, two- and three- bedroom units.

Construction ran from September 2023 to August 2025, with commissioning taking place in March 2026.

The project sits on 2.5 acres of land. The project sells houses under social, affordable, or market conditions.

The project has transformed the economy of Kuria West by injecting Ksh200 million into the immediate community during construction. It also created direct employment for more than 120 skilled and unskilled workers.

The project has also integrated skills by employing unskilled workers to work with skilled ones. The constituency has also seen slum prevention as people with low income can become homeowners in a dignified house.

The social structure under this project is to protect families earning below Ksh20,000 per month.

Owning The House

It allows them to pay the 10 per cent deposit and gives them a bit more subsidy. The affordable one allows for families earning between Ksh20,000 and Ksh50,000 to

Continued on Page 3 →

Mabera Affordable Housing estate in Kuria West, Migori County. PHOTO | PSCU.



emphasised that the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) has enabled the residents to become homeowners.

The Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) is part of wider schemes by the government to create sustainable and gainful self-employment for the youth and women.

The 2026 Economic Survey indicates that under the Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Programme, whose objective is to ‘increase employment and earning opportunities for targeted youths, at least 135,423 youths were trained on life skills and core business skills during the review period.

Additionally, through the Business Plan Competition, 741 young people were awarded Ksh1.3 billion to actualise their business ideas, in so doing creating jobs for their cohorts. A further 252,000 youth were trained 252,000 youth through the KYEOP.

“The construction sector remained a key driver of economic growth and development in 2025, contributing to investment, employment creation and the expansion of infrastructure and housing. Growth in the sector was supported by sustained public and private investment in residential housing, commercial developments and infrastructure projects,” the document stated.

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afford more room, while the social structure is focused on price, thus no 3-bedrooms are allocated social, while no one-bedroom is allocated market price.

The 1-bedroom unit under social housing costs Ksh 960,000 with a monthly rent of Ksh 5,350, while costing Ksh 1,500,000 to rent, with a monthly rent of Ksh 10,850. The 2-bedroom units under the social structure cost Ksh 1,280,000 with a monthly rent of Ksh 6,800, while under the affordable it costs Ksh 2,000,000 with a monthly rent of Ksh 14,450.

The two-bedroom is also available on the market at a cost of Ksh2,400,000 with a rent of Ksh21,160.



President William Ruto (R) chilling with Lands Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development Alice Wahome and her Treasury Counterpart John Mbadi in one of the Mabera estate houses on March 23, 2026. PHOTO | PSCU.

The three-bedroom units under affordable housing costs Ksh3,000,000 with a monthly rent of Ksh21,680.

Increase Employment

During unveiling of the project in March this year, President Ruto



A beautiful view of Lake Victoria at the Homa Bay affordable houses. PHOTO | Raymond Omollo.



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The Bondeni Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) comprises 605 units. PHOTO | Boma Yangu.



Inside Ruto's Nakuru Affordable Housing revolution changing thousands of lives

By Phillip Momanyi

The national government completed historic two Affordable Housing Projects in Nakuru County to improve access to basic services and land tenure security for residents.

Between 2023 and 2025, the government completed the two low-cost estates in the county, namely Bondeni Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) in Nakuru Town East and Bahati Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) in Bahati sub-county.

The Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) 2023-2027 underlines that through the Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP II), the government intends to improve access to basic services and land tenure security of residents in selected informal housing settlements in at least 33 counties.

The Affordable Housing Programme is improving the living standards of Kenyans in selected urban informal settlements.

“One of the expected outcomes is 6,000 households connected to water supply,” official government documents state.

Consequently, completion of the two projects demonstrates that

the government is not letting up on its determination to improve the welfare of her citizens.

Priority Sectors

The projects are anchored on Kenya Vision 2030, which is the country's long-term development blueprint aimed at steering Kenya into a middle-income country by 2030.

The ambition is being realised through successive five-year Medium-Term Plans (MTPs): MTP I (2008–2012), MTP II (2013–2017), MTP III 2018–2022 and the current MTP IV 2023–2027.

Under the current regime led by President William Ruto, Kenya Vision 2030 is being implemented through the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which prioritises sectors with high capability of significantly overhauling the country's economic status.

They are, Agriculture; Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Economy; Housing and Settlement; Healthcare; Digital Superhighway and Creative Economy.

Under the transformation agenda,

technological growth, affordable housing, and extensive road infrastructure.

Bondeni Project

“The Government aims at increasing investment through construction of 200,000 housing units annually, enabling low-cost mortgages, strengthening the capacity of Jua Kali industry to produce high quality construction products and providing incentives to developers to support the affordable housing programme,” the Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) 2023-2027 confirms.

The Bondeni Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) is a completed project with 605 units.

It sits on 7.5 hectares of land and cost the government Ksh2 billion to construct. The units comprise 45 one-bedroom (33.3 sqm), 180 two-bedroom (64.1 sqm), and 380 three-bedroom (85 sqm) apartments.

The project was developed by Kings Sapphire Limited as a joint venture with the government, Nakuru County Government providing the land.

State-Of-The-Art

The initial phase was designed and developed as an estate with social amenities such as borehole and comprehensive water storage

housing and settlement is central to the government's quest to make Kenya the ‘Singapore of Africa’ – an ambitious plan by President Ruto to move Kenya from a lower-middle-income economy to first-world status through industrialisation,



Inside one of the units of the Bondeni Housing Project in Nakuru County. PHOTO | Boma Yangu.

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facilities, backup power generator, and solar street lighting for security and energy efficiency.

Other features are perimeter security wall, cabro-paved driveways, community hall, dedicated playground and green spaces, health dispensary, and commercial hub.

The project was launched on May 26, 2021 and completed in 2023. By December 2023, to benefit from the rent-to-own plan, interested residents were required to deposit 10% of the total purchase price to qualify.

A one-bedroom unit is sold at Ksh1.55 million, while a two-bedroom goes for Ksh3.13 million with a monthly payment of roughly Ksh16,997, and Ksh4.25 million for a three-bedroom unit with monthly payments of Ksh22,933.

Bahati Housing Project

The Bahati Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) features nine apartment blocks nestled on 10 acres of land in Bahati.

It has 220 residential units consisting of studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments. The first phase was launched in November 2023 and completed in March 2025.

The project, which was put up at a cost of Ksh504 million, includes amenities that help to improve communal and social wellness, namely an integrated gas reticulation system for kitchens, common area solar lighting, and a clean water network featuring an underground tank, paved pedestrian walkways, cabro parking spaces, and expansive green social areas.

The project comprises 60 studio apartments, 20 one-bedroom apartments, 120 two-bedroom apartments, and 20 three-bedroom apartments. To be allocated a unit,

The Bahati Affordable Housing Project has

220

residential units consisting of studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments. The first phase was launched in November 2023 and completed in March 2025.

The Bondeni housing project units comprise 45 one-bedroom (33.3 sqm), 180 two-bedroom (64.1 sqm), and 380 three-bedroom (85 sqm) apartments. PHOTO | Boma Yangu.



the applicant must first put up with 5% deposit.

Payment Time

A studio apartment is sold at Ksh640,000, which can be paid in monthly instalments of Ksh3,800; a one-bedroom unit costs Ksh960,000, with a monthly payment of Ksh5,200, while the two- and three-bedroom apartments cost for Ksh1,280,000 and Ksh3,000,000, respectively. The payment duration is pegged at 30 years.

President Ruto has since lauded the programme, reiterating that it has reinvigorated the local economy through job creation.

During an inspection tour of the houses in February 2023, President Ruto revealed that the Bondeni project had created over 2,000 jobs and pumped about Ksh430 million into the local economy through wages and salaries.

Between 1,500 and 2,000 people were hired as plumbers, masons, carpenters, steel fixers, and wrights.

Other sectors and residents who benefited included informal food vendors, transport, aggregate suppliers and retail outlets.

“We are confident the 200,000 housing units’ annual projection as espoused in the Kenya Kwanza Manifesto will produce more economic opportunities for the millions of ordinary people struggling to put food on the table,” President Ruto said then.

The housing programme

being carried out nationwide has enabled Kenyan youths gain skills and work experience in line with the BETA vision. BETA is being implemented through five MTP

IV sectors, specifically Finance and Production; Infrastructure; Social; Environment and Natural Resources; and Governance and Public Administration.



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Ngara, Mukuru kwa Njenga Affordable Housing projects give residents sense of ownership



President William Ruto when he commissioned the Mukuru Housing Estate Lot 1, Phase 1 houses in Nairobi on May 20, 2025. PHOTO | PSCU.

By Phillip Momanyi

The Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) is a key crucible in Kenya's pursuit for socioeconomic growth and attainment of Upper Middle-Income Country status.

The programme is one of the initiatives that the Kenya Kwanza government is relying on to promote inclusive growth and alleviate the quality of life and living conditions of Kenyans in rural areas, low-income urban areas and informal settlements across the country.

More importantly, with rural-urban migration and the ballooning of urban growth rate, the socioeconomic development of the country is heavily impacted and its transformation long overdue.

Kenya Vision 2030 Flagship Projects Progress Report (2008-2017), categorically highlights the significance of urbanisation in catalysing productivity and creating opportunities for

economic development.

"The Kenya Vision 2030 envisages that with the right urban planning strategy, it will be possible to change the lives of millions of Kenyans for the better. Additionally, urban areas are symbols of prosperity since the concentration of activities in urban areas allows for specialisation and exchange-processes, which are essential to economic growth."

1.2 Million Jobs

Through the multiple-faced infrastructure programme, which intends to hit two birds with one stone (improving living conditions and creating employment), the government, under President William Ruto, is also striving to build 200,000 housing units annually to contribute to the annual growth of Gross Domestic by creating employment for the youth.

The Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP) 2023-2027 indicates that roughly 800,000 youths join the labour market yearly, with

Further, the project seeks to increase the number of low-cost mortgages from

30,000-1m

the majority securing gainful employment.

To remedy the crisis, the government intends to create 1.2 million new jobs each year between 2023 and 2027.

Of the 200,000 units, 60,000 will be financed through the government while 140,000 units will be funded through the National Housing Development Fund.

Further, the project seeks to increase the number of low-cost mortgages from 30,000 to 1 million.

Since its inception nine years ago, the various housing projects have been completed in different counties, including Nairobi (Park Road Ngara, Pangani Estate), Mombasa (Buxton Point) and Machakos (Mavoko Sustainable Housing Project).

Key Sectors

These projects were executed as pilot case studies under the Big Four Agenda, which has now transitioned to the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

BETA, as delineated in MTP IV 2023-2027, was instituted to assuage the prevailing economic difficulties.

Its core pillars of agriculture; micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) Economy; housing and settlement; healthcare; and digital superhighway and creative economy aim to knock down the cost of living, root out hunger, generate employment, widen the tax base, advancing foreign exchange balances, and inclusive growth.

BETA is being realised through five MTP IV sectors, namely: Finance and Production; Infrastructure; Social; Environment and Natural Resources; and Governance and Public Administration.

"The Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) 2023-2027 implements the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which is geared towards economic turnaround and inclusive growth through a value chain approach," MTP IV 2023-2027 states.

Park Road Project

Implementation of the programme is already gaining steam. Nairobi County has two properly completed affordable housing projects, namely: Park Road Affordable Housing Project in Ngara and Mukuru Phase 1 Housing Scheme.

The Park Road project was the official pilot project under the Affordable Housing Programme, and served as the baseline model for the entire programme.

China Construction Engineering Corporation began constructing the project on a 7.9-hectare plot at a cost of Ksh5 billion in May 2019 and completed it in January 2020.

The estate boasts 1,370 units; out of these, there are 100 one-bedroom apartments, 540 two bedrooms, and 730 three-bedroom apartments.

The government divided the total 1370-unit inventory into two buyable categories. Civil servants and disciplined forces were given 40 per

Continued on Page 7 →



Affordable houses in Mukuru Kwa Njenga, Nairobi County on May 20, 2025. PHOTO | PCSU.

Significance

Going by the Economic Survey 2026, the programme has contributed significantly to the growth of the country, with the construction sector expanding by 6.8 per cent in 2025 compared to a shrinkage of 0.7 per cent in 2024.

The sector’s recovery was largely supported by increased civil works such as construction and maintenance of roads coupled with a rise in construction of residential buildings.

“Credit advanced to enterprises in the construction sector also increased from Ksh126.7 billion as at December 2024 to Ksh184.4 billion as at December 2025,” the report confirms.

The report added that as at 31 December 2025, 205,311 residential units were under construction with an estimated value of KSh499.9 billion. Of these, projects under the AHP accounted for the largest share with 138,474 units with an estimated construction cost of KSh385.8 billion.

On the other hand, social housing projects had 53,350 units under construction with an estimated construction cost of Ksh81.8 billion, while Institutional housing projects comprised 12,709 units with an estimated construction cost of Ksh28.6 billion.

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cent, equivalent to 548 units, while the remaining 60 percent, or 822 units, was sold to the general public, focusing on low- and middle-income earners, through the Boma Yangu platform at 12.5 per cent deposit of the total amount through a tenant purchase scheme. The balance was to be paid for the next 25 years. All the units are now occupied.

Expand Investment

The government, according to MTP IV 2023-2027, is banking on the

Housing and Settlement programme to expand investment through building of housing units to enable low-cost mortgages, bolster the capability of the Jua Kali industry to “produce high quality construction products and providing incentives to developers to support the affordable housing programme.”

The government allocated over Ksh120 million to the informal manufacturing and artisanal sector, which was paid directly to the Nairobi Jua Kali Artisan Association, to locally manufacture internal fittings, including 14,000 steel windows and

doors. The residential units were priced between Ksh1,500,000 and Ksh4,000,000.

A one-bedroom unit measuring 30 sqm went for Ksh1,500,000 while two- and three-bedroom apartments measuring 40 sqm and 60sqm cost Ksh2,000,000 and Ksh3,550,000 respectively.

At the same time, a three-bedroom house 80sqm went for Ksh4,000,000.

Inside one of the units of the affordable houses in Mukuru Kwa Njenga, Nairobi County on May 20, 2025. PHOTO | PCSU.



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Mombasa's landmark Ksh6 billion housing project fuels TVET growth

The Buxton Point Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) in Mombasa County, a walking distance to key institutions and social amenities such as Coast General Hospital, Technical University of Mombasa, Kenya Methodist University, Mombasa Stadium, and primary and secondary schools. PHOTO | Boma Yangu.

By Phillip Momanyi

The Buxton Point Affordable Housing Project (Phase 1) in Mombasa County is the maiden project completed under the Affordable Housing Programme (AHP), a historic achievement for the Kenya Kwanza administration led by President William Ruto.

The project was completed in 2023 through a public-private partnership (PPP) between the County government and GulfCap Real Estate at a cost of Ksh6 billion.

The estate, which sits on 8.45 acres along Abdel Nasser Road, features 584 modern apartments that comprise 192 units one-bedroom, 296 two-bedroom, and 96 three-bedroom apartments with 16 baseline retail spaces integrated at ground level.

The project has community amenities such as a swimming pool, playgrounds, church, mosque, and a market.

Urban Renewal

One-bedroom units were sold at Ksh3 million, with interested homeowners required to deposit 10 per cent to qualify and make minimum monthly payments of Ksh24,268.

On the other hand, two-bedroom units were sold at Ksh4.5 million, with owners parting with Ksh36,402 monthly deposit. The three-bedroom units sold Ksh5.8 million, with the potential owner paying a monthly payment plan of Ksh46,918.

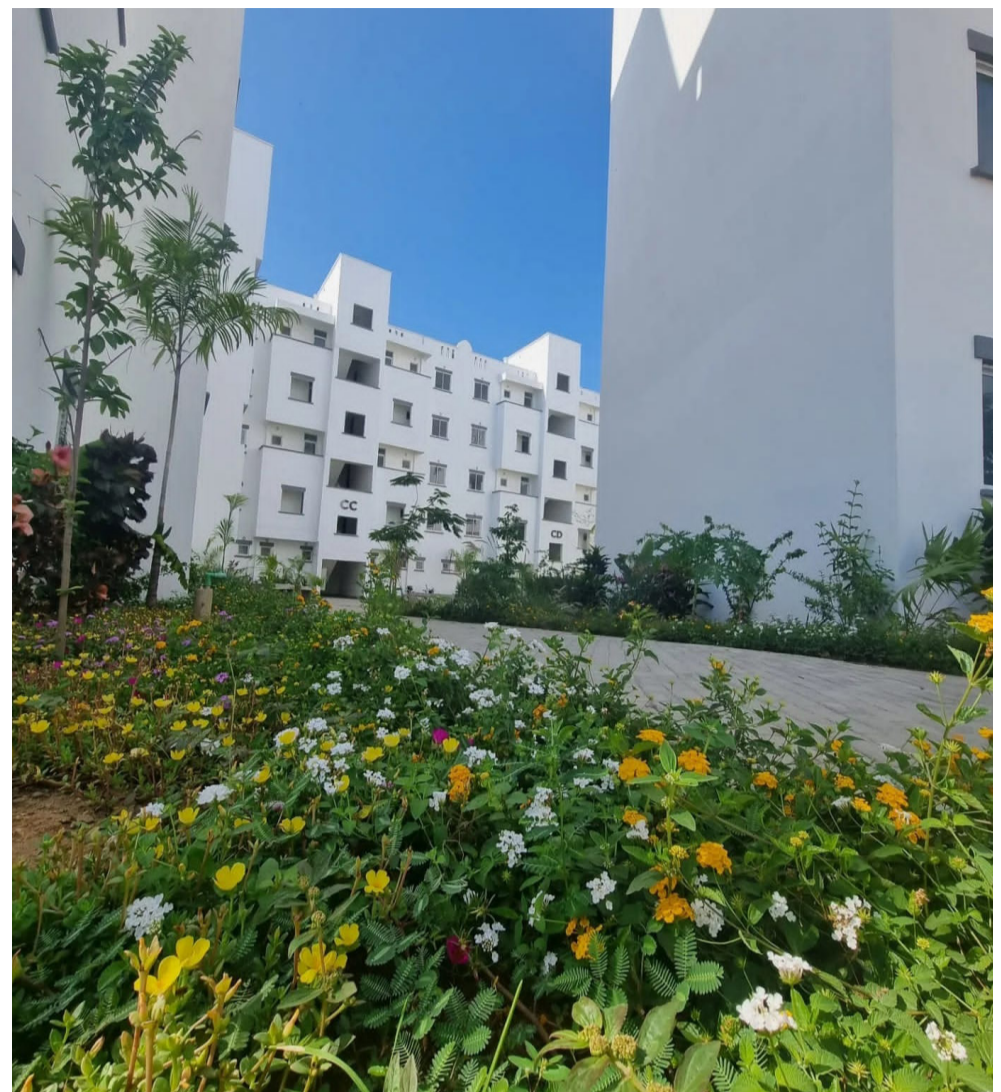
The project serves as the primary national blueprint for urban renewal in Kenya, winning the "Best Affordable Housing Project of the year 2025" from the Kenya Professional Realtors Association.

The project has boosted integration of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) graduates into the job market. Additionally, the project has also created a secondary market for local hospitality workers, cleaning agencies, and property managers.

Human Capital

President Ruto has emphasised the need to strengthen the TVET ecosystem to reduce the gap between market and training through the Kenya Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship Accelerator Programme.

According to Fourth Medium Term Plan 2023-2027, the programme targets to create at least one million jobs for women and youths annually through financing, access to markets, business coaching and mentorship in the private sector, as part of concerted efforts to boost their socioeconomic welfare.



"It entails unlocking the potential of micro and small enterprises with tailored support services; leveraging on technology and digital transformation to scale-up the businesses; collaborating with the TVET ecosystem to bridge the gap between industry and training; and transforming the youth labour market through evidence and credible data," official government documents state.

Further, under the social sector, the government intends to expand the sector to absorb more trainees to boost human capital development.

According to the government, the ambition includes constructing and equipping TVET institutions in 52 constituencies, equipping 72 existing TVET institutions, recruiting 2,000 technical trainers and instructors, establishing incubation centres in every TVET



The project has community amenities such as a swimming pool, playgrounds, church, mosque, and a market. PHOTO | Boma Yangu.

Kwale, Taita Taveta lead in completed market infrastructure in Coast region

By Jalang'o Odi

The Coastal region continues to witness varying levels of development through the implementation of the government's Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) and modern market infrastructure projects aimed at improving trade, enhancing sanitation standards and creating organised trading spaces for small-scale traders.

While several counties still have projects under construction, Kwale and Taita Taveta counties have recorded completed ESP market projects.

In Lamu County, Kizingitini Fish Market in Lamu East Constituency and the Hindi Modern Market in



President William Ruto when he officially Handed over the Diani Modern Market in Msambweni Constituency, Kwale County on May 23, 2026. PHOTO | PCS

Lamu West stand out.

The Kizingitini Modern Fish Market in Lamu East Constituency has been completed at a cost of Ksh56 million.

The fish market with 100 traders' capacity is solar powered, has an ablution block, rainwater harvesting system, an ICT hub and a cold room.

This key project is aimed at strengthening the blue economy and improving livelihoods of fishing communities along the Coast.

The modern facility will provide organised trading spaces, improved fish handling and storage facilities, and better market access for fishermen and traders in the region.

Diani Modern Market

The Diani Modern Market in Msambweni Sub-county, Kwale County has been completed at a cost of Ksh193.2 million and officially commissioned by

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President William Ruto interacts with one of the traders at the Diani Modern Market in Msambweni on May 23, 2026. PHOTO | PCS

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There is an ICT hub and a Social Hall aimed at supporting digital access, training and community engagement activities.

The project is expected to enhance organised trade in the tourism-rich Diani and Msambweni areas while improving business opportunities for small traders and women groups.

Mwatunge ESP Market

The Mwatunge ESP Market in Mwatate Sub-county, Taita Taveta County that cost Ksh55.2 million is complete and is changing the face of the once near-forgotten county.

It consists of a ground-plus-one-level structure designed to accommodate approximately 200 modern stalls.

Additional facilities include an ICT room, a mothering room, office space and modern ablution blocks.

The facility is expected to give local traders a conducive trading environment while enhancing hygiene and improving service delivery.

*The Mwatunge
ESP Market in
Mwatate Sub-
county, Taita
Taveta County
that cost*

**Ksh
55.2m**

Stocked stalls at the newly commissioned Diani Modern Market in Msambweni, in Kwale Market on May 23, 2026. PHOTO | PCS.





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Nandi county traders eye improved trade as major ESP markets come to life



By Jalang'o Odidi

Nandi County has some of the most notable Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) market infrastructure projects in the former Rift Valley province, with major facilities having been commissioned and in operation.

The projects are aimed at strengthening local trade networks, improving sanitation and creating formal trading spaces for traders.

Nandi County has recorded the completion of three market projects

including Kobujoi, Chepsonoi and Mosoriot markets.

The construction of Kobujoi Market in Aldai Sub-county has reached 100 per cent completion at a cost of Ksh58 million.

The project comprises market stalls and associated amenities aimed at improving trading conditions for local businesses.

The Chepsonoi Market project in Emgwen reached full completion at a cost of Ksh58 million by May 2026.

The facility consists of market stalls and associated support amenities designed to support

The Kobujoi ESP Market in Aldai Constituency, Nandi County designed to accommodate 200 small and medium enterprises (SMEs) daily and up to 1,000 traders on peak market days. PHOTO | Raymond Omollo.

Ksh141.7m

Mosoriot ESP Market in Chemusei is designed to accommodate approximately 200 traders, with 120 traders operating on the ground floor and 80 on the upper level.

organised trade. Ksh141.7 million Mosoriot ESP Market in Chemusei is designed to accommodate approximately 200 traders, with 120 traders operating on the ground floor and 80 on the upper level.

Also, it includes market stalls and associated amenities aimed at creating a structured and efficient environment for commerce.

The region has made significant progress in market infrastructure development, particularly in Nandi County, where Kobujoi, Chepsonoi and Mosoriot markets have been completed.



Eastern region records mixed progress in modern market infrastructure development

By Jalang'o Odidi

The Eastern region has recorded mixed progress, but the completed ones have started improving access to structured trading spaces, enhancing sanitation standards and supporting local economic growth.

In Embu County, Ishiara market was completed at a cost of Ksh41 million.

It features market office spaces, modern sheds, stalls for traders and an ablution block. The market is expected to enhance business operations and improve hygiene standards for traders and customers.

Kitui County has recorded the completion of two major market

projects namely Kakongo and Kamwongo ESP markets.

The Kakongo ESP Market in Mwingi East cost Ksh59.3 million and involved the construction of a modern trading stalls, utilities and support facilities aimed at improving trading conditions for local businesses.

The Kamwongo ESP Market in Mwingi North, Kitui County has also attained full completion.

The facility consists of modern trading stalls and support facilities designed to enhance commercial activities within the area.

The Eastern region has achieved notable progress through completed projects in Embu and Kitui counties, including the Ishiara, Kakongo and Kamwongo markets.

The Kakongo EPS Market expected to spur rural economic growth by promoting micro, small, and medium enterprises in Mwingi Constituency. PHOTO | Charles Nguna.



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President William Ruto officially handed over the Machakos Housing Project houses to their new owners on November 14, 2025. PHOTO | PSC.

Inside the Ksh541M Machakos housing project changing lives

By Phillip Momanyi

The Machakos Township Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) Phase 1 is a completed project located along the Chumvi-Machakos-Kitui Highway, near Machakos Teachers College.

It offers 220 units comprising 60 studio, 40 one-bedroom, 60 two-bedroom, and 60 three-bedroom apartments. The government financed the project for Ksh541 million, while the county government provided the 2.4-acre plot of land.

The project, which was launched in September 2023, was completed by Kavindu General Contractor, in partnership with other local businesses, in October 2025 and later officially commissioned by President William Ruto on November 14, 2025.

Phase One was developed as a modern, self-sustaining estate with ample and secure parking lot, designated children's playground, well-paved internal roads with sidewalks for pedestrians, and

green spaces for relaxation and social interactions, with ample water and reliable electricity supply.

How to Own

The project uses a tenant purchase scheme whereby the buyer occupies a preferred unit and pays monthly installments periodically for up to 30 years upon which they own the house, or pays the full amount, which only applies to units sold under Affordable and Market-Rate Housing frameworks. The other framework is Social Housing.

The social housing scheme is the category designed for the lowest-income-earning households. This scheme targets individuals earning below Ksh 20,000 per month. Typically, units under this rent-to-own framework range from studio to one- and sometimes two-bedroom units.

The scheme focuses on slum upgrading by providing decent living conditions, with some shared amenities for the lowest price possible.

The Affordable Housing Scheme, on the other hand, targets middle-income individuals earning between Ksh20,000 - Ksh150,000 per month.

The units include studio

apartments and 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom apartments. The units are usually priced below current market rates to bridge the gap between formal and informal workers.

The Market Housing scheme is sold at rates closer to market rates, targeting high-income earners who still want to buy a house at reasonable price. The units are primarily larger two- and three-bedroom apartments with modern finishing.

These three rent-to-own categories apply to the Machakos AHP. Studio apartments under the Social Housing scheme are sold at Ksh640,000, with a monthly rent of Ksh3,900, while under Affordable Housing the same unit goes for Ksh1,000,000 and monthly rent payment of Ksh7,250.

How to Qualify

A one-bedroom unit under Social Housing is priced at Ksh960,000 at monthly Tenant Purchase Scheme (TPS) payment of Ksh5,350. Under Affordable Housing, the one-bedroom house is priced at Ksh1,500,000 with a monthly rent of Ksh10,850.

Additionally, a two-bedroom unit under the social scheme is purchased at Ksh1,280,000, with the buyer required to pay Ksh6,800 as rent every month, while under Affordable Housing it costs one Ksh2,000,000 to buy and Ksh14,450 as rent every month. Under Market Housing scheme, it goes for Ksh2,400,000 with a monthly rent



President William Ruto handing over dummy keys to new house owners of the Machakos Housing Project on November 14, 2025. PHOTO | PCS

Continued on Page 15 →



A view of the Machakos Affordable Housing projects that were handed over to beneficiaries by President William Ruto on November 14, 2025. PHOTO | PCS.

← Continued from Page 14

of Ksh21,160.

The three-bedrooms under Affordable Housing go for Ksh3,000,000 each, with a payable monthly rent of Ksh21,680, while under Market Housing its costs a prospective buyer Ksh3,600,000, with Ksh31,750 as monthly rent.

To qualify, an interested buyer is first required to deposit 10% of the purchase value. The project was completely sold off by March 2026.

The project provided 450 direct jobs for the local youth in the region and empowered the Jua Kali sector following the investment of roughly Ksh26 million through the purchase of 1,000 steel doors and 800 windows.

It equally reinvigorated the local industries such as construction, transport, retail, and informal food sector.

Increasing Investment

The project has catalysed realization of the BETA, which seeks to catapult economic transformation through implementation of targeted interventions aimed at boosting the country's GDP.

The Fourth Medium Term Plan 2023-2027, under Macroeconomic Framework for the Fourth Medium Term Plan 2023-2027, indicates that one of the five interventions – increased investment in housing and settlement – is expected to raise GDP growth is projected from 4.8 per cent in 2022 to 7.2 per cent in 2027. “The growth is expected to be driven by: increasing investment in housing and settlement through

construction of 200,000 housing units annually; enabling low-cost mortgage; strengthening Jua Kali industry capacity to produce high quality construction products; and providing incentives to developers to build more affordable houses,” the document states.

The other interventions are Raising agricultural productivity; transformation of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) economy; strengthening healthcare by delivery of Universal Health Coverage (UHC) system; and vesting in the digital superhighway and the creative economy to enhance productivity and overall competitiveness.

According to the Fourth Medium Term Plan 2023-2027, Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) is a framework designed to revamping the socioeconomic status of the country through lowering the cost of living; eradicating hunger; creating jobs; expanding the tax base; improving foreign exchange balances; and inclusive growth.

Key Economic Driver

The core pillars of BETA are: agriculture; micro, small and medium enterprise (MSME) Economy; housing and settlement; healthcare; and digital superhighway and creative economy.

The Economic Survey 2026 underscores that as at December 31, 2025 205,311 housing units were under construction with an estimated value of Ksh499.9 billion.

Of these, projects under the AHP accounted for the largest share with

138,474 units with an estimated construction cost of Ksh385.8 billion. This significantly helped to improve the wages for construction workers across all skill categories by 1.1 per cent to Ksh29,876 in 2025.

The survey adds that the wages for semi-skilled workers also rose by 3 per cent to Ksh41,163 in the same year. Additionally, the earning

for skilled workers improved from Ksh53,113 in 2024 to Ksh53,629 in 2025. “The construction sector remained a key driver of economic growth and development in 2025, contributing to investment, employment creation and the expansion of infrastructure and housing... The Government initiatives, particularly under the Affordable Housing Programme (AHP) which is a key pillar of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), continued to support activity in the sector and expand the supply of housing units across the country,” the report says.

While commissioning the development in November 2025, President William Ruto said the payment plan allows families with low income to own houses while paying incremental amounts they are comfortable with.

“And all these houses we have built using Kenyan money, we have hired our contractors, we have built with our own strength and our young people have built them. This demonstrates that we can build our own country,” he said.

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The Nyansiongo Modern Market forms part of the Government's broader effort to strengthen market infrastructure while enhancing the safety and dignity of small-scale traders. PHOTO | Raymond Omollo.

Gusii region and Homa Bay get major market boost as ESP projects transform rural trade

By Obed Simiyu

The historic Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) projects are steadily transforming rural communities across the country, opening up new economic opportunities and giving trading centres a modern outlook.

One of the flagship projects ready to be handed over to locals is the ultra-modern Ksh25.8 million Riat Kolemo ESP Market in Rarieda Constituency, Siaya County, which is expected to significantly improve the working environment for small-scale traders and stimulate local economic growth.

The market is part of the government's broader effort under the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) pillar of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which seeks to empower grassroots businesses and strengthen local economies.

The market will provide a modern and organised trading space designed to accommodate

Ksh 194.7 million Phase One of the project, which involved the construction of the main modern market facility, has already been completed.

The market will provide a modern and organised trading space designed to accommodate up to

200 traders.

up to 200 traders. The spacious single-floor market shed features smart stalls aimed at enhancing the secure storage and proper display of goods.

To help reduce post-harvest losses, the market has cold room facilities for preserving perishable produce, a key boost for traders dealing in fresh farm products.

The development further incorporates a lactation room for nursing mothers, ample parking space and administrative offices to support efficient management and smooth market operations.

In addition, the first floor of the facility will host an ICT hub, food court, social hall, ATM lobby and a revenue collection centre, positioning the market as a modern commercial and social hub within the region.

An offsite ablution block equipped for men, women and Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) has also been included in the project to promote dignity, accessibility and inclusivity for all users.

Nyansiongo Market (Phase I)

The Nyansiongo Modern Market in Nyamira County is steadily taking shape under the government's Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP), with officials describing the project as a major step towards improving market infrastructure and creating safer, more dignified trading spaces for small-scale traders.

The project, which is being implemented in phases, forms part of the national government's wider agenda to modernise trading centres while supporting local economic growth.

The Ksh194.7 million Phase One of the project, which involved the construction of the main modern market facility, has already been completed.

It is equipped with modern amenities including electrical installations, CCTV surveillance systems, Wi-Fi connectivity and an ICT unit aimed at supporting digital communication and business operations.

Renovation works on the existing market structures are also ongoing. The facelift includes painting, tiling and glazing works intended to modernise the older sections of the market and create a cleaner and more organised business environment.

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Siaya's new markets deliver dignity, jobs and modern trade infrastructure

By Obed Simiyu

Trade and small-scale businesses in Alego Usonga are set to get a major boost after the completion of the construction of the Ksh174.6 million Obambo market.

Consisting of 200 stalls, storage room, mothers' room, Social Hall, Banking room, ablution block, cold room an ICT hub, the market is just awaiting official commissioning being handed over to the traders.

The Obambo ESP Market is set to boost trade and support small businesses as part of the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda aimed at expanding modern trade infrastructure across the country.

Jera Market

The construction of the Market, Office Block and Sanitation Block at Jera Market in Ugenya Constituency, Siaya County, is set to transform trade activities and improve the working environment for hundreds of small-scale traders in the area.

The project, implemented

through the State Department for Housing and Urban Development in collaboration with the Siaya County Government, aims at strengthening grassroots commerce while enhancing access to modern and dignified trading facilities.

Once handed over, the Ksh26.4 million project will provide traders with improved infrastructure designed to support business growth and create a cleaner and more organised marketplace.

The project comprises two modern market sheds that will accommodate traders dealing in farm produce and other small-scale businesses. The sheds are expected to provide protection from harsh weather conditions and create a

more conducive environment for trade.

It also includes an office block that will house the market management committee and support day-to-day administrative operations within the facility.

In addition, the project features a sanitation and ablution block equipped with washroom facilities for men, women and persons living with disabilities. The facility will also include water supply infrastructure such as roof tanks and booster pumps to ensure reliable access to clean water.

Riat Kolemo Market

The newly developed Riat Kolemo Market in Siger Village, West Asembo Ward, Rarieda Constituency, is expected to breathe new life into trade and economic activities in Siaya County.

Constructed under the national government's Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP), the modern fresh produce market is designed to strengthen the grassroots economy by creating a conducive environment for small-scale

traders and farmers.

The one-storey facility, which can accommodate over 200 traders, has been developed as an organised and accessible commercial hub equipped with modern amenities aimed at improving business operations and service delivery.

Among its key features are 200 smart display stalls designed to support the sale of fresh produce and other goods. The market also includes dry storage rooms and cold room facilities to help traders safely preserve both perishable and non-perishable commodities.

In a move aimed at promoting digital inclusion and community engagement, the facility also houses an ICT hub with internet connectivity, a social hall and administrative offices.

Additional amenities include a food court, a lactation room for nursing mothers and an ATM lobby to improve convenience for traders and customers.

The market has also been designed with accessibility in mind, featuring facilities that are friendly to persons living with disabilities. Security is expected to improve further through support from nearby local administration offices and a proposed police post within the area.

Sega ESP Market

The Sega ESP Market in Siaya

Among its key features are

200
smart display stalls designed to support the sale of fresh produce and other goods.

County is among the latest infrastructure projects rolled out by the national government to modernise local trading centres and improve the working conditions of small-scale traders across the country.

Implemented by the State Department for Housing and Urban Development, the project forms part of the Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), which seeks to strengthen grassroots economies and create sustainable opportunities for ordinary Kenyans.

The market is expected to provide traders, including small business owners and "Mama Mboga" vendors, with a modern and organised all-weather trading environment designed to enhance business operations and boost local commerce.

According to project details released by the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development, the development includes modern market sheds featuring open and semi-enclosed trading spaces to shield traders and customers from harsh weather conditions.

The project also incorporates key support amenities such as multi-stall ablution blocks comprising toilets and bathrooms, as well as designated waste disposal areas aimed at improving sanitation and hygiene standards within the market.

The Obambo ESP Market is set to boost trade and support small businesses as part of the government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda.
PHOTO | Raymond Omollo.





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President William Ruto addressing residents during the official opening of the Suswa ESP market on May 6, 2025. PHOTO | PCS.

Narok, Kajiado and Kakamega markets spark economic revival for small-scale traders

By Obed Simiyu

The people of Narok County, especially in Narok East have a superb chance to drive their economy to the next level following the completion of the construction of Suswa ESP market at a cost of Ksh170 million.

The traders and their customers have now been granted a chance to do operate in a conducive, dignified and safe place.

In many markets across the country, traders had been forced to operate in near uninhabitable environments due to poor facilities and lack of crucial amenities like ablution blocks. The risk of diseases was real.

This threat is now one of their least worries since the Suswa modern market has an ablution block, proper electrical and supporting facilities among other features.

A water tank at the Sisokhe Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP) Market in Kakamega County. PHOTO | PCS.



An aerial view of the Suswa ESP market in Narok County accommodating 200 traders. PHOTO | PCS.

“This is more than just a marketplace, it’s a vision brought to life. Designed to support over 300 traders, the Suswa ESP Market blends innovation with dignity. From smart stalls and cold/dry storage to an ICT hub, lactation

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room, ablution blocks, food court, and even a children's play area every detail is built with people in mind," the State Department for Housing and Urban Development says of this project.

On May 6, 2025, President William Ruto hailed the project as a game changer as he officially commissioned it and opened it to full operation.

"This is a major milestone for the residents of Suswa, and indeed for all of Narok County. The completion of this modern market will not only boost trade but also create a conducive environment for business growth," Ruto said.

Kimama and Rombo Markets

Kimama and Rombo markets have offered local traders the much-needed boost by offering them a structured, dignified and modern working space safe for their customers and themselves.

The Kajiado South Kimama market features comprehensive structural, social and civil infrastructure that has injected life in the areas business and developmental growth.

It boasts of spacious trading stalls offering relief to both traders and their products. Its family-friendly amenities that include units for baby care and designated rooms for breastfeeding and lactating mothers make it even attractive.

It is also to move around the market as it has high level civil works where drainage and solid waste is well managed, good and well paved walkways and proper loading and offloading bays.

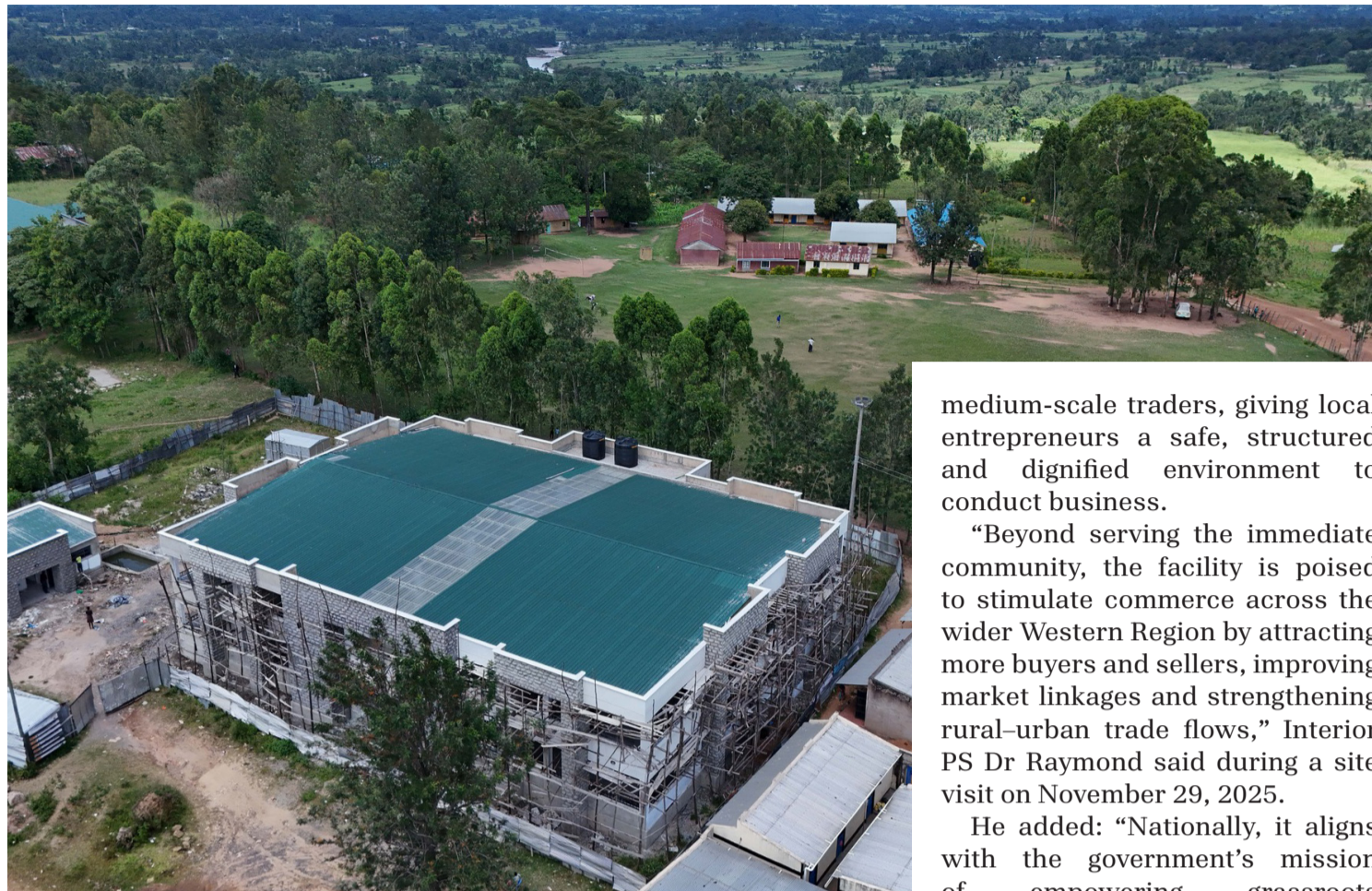
Namanga Market

The completion of Namanga ESP market crowns the areas development.

Both the National and county government of Kajiado have managed to deliver efficient, affordable and reliable market infrastructure to traders through construction, modernization, rehabilitation and effective management of all markets.

According to the government, "These markets have provided the link between consumers and sellers in a formal and regulated conducive environment. The county has constructed 14 markets spread across the county."

Other markets include Isinet ESP



Ksh113.2 million Sisokhe ESP Market in Navakholo Constituency, Kakamega County. PHOTO | PCS.



These markets have provided the link between consumers and sellers in a formal and regulated conducive environment. The county has constructed 14 markets spread across the county

Market that was constructed at the cost of Ksh50.2 million and the Ongata Rongai Market.

Sisokhe Market

Kilometres away from Kajiado, the government through the State Department for Housing and Urban Development, has continued to deliver its promises with the 100 per cent completion of Ksh113.2 million Sisokhe ESP Market in Navakholo Constituency, Kakamega County.

Construction of this market was initiated in April 2024 and completed a year later and has since injected new life in the economic activities of the region.

It features lighting systems, water storage tank, kitchen and ablution bloc, children area and cold rooms for storage of products.

It accommodates at least 100 well-organized trading spaces designed to support small and

medium-scale traders, giving local entrepreneurs a safe, structured and dignified environment to conduct business.

"Beyond serving the immediate community, the facility is poised to stimulate commerce across the wider Western Region by attracting more buyers and sellers, improving market linkages and strengthening rural-urban trade flows," Interior PS Dr Raymond said during a site visit on November 29, 2025.

He added: "Nationally, it aligns with the government's mission of empowering grassroots enterprises, increasing household incomes and anchoring inclusive economic growth."



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Last Mile electrification accelerates Kenya's path to industrialisation

By Philip Momanyi

The Last Mile Connectivity Programme (LMCP) is catalysing the realisation of Kenya's industrialisation agenda through the distribution and expansion of electricity access to citizens nationwide.

The universal electricity connectivity project, which is being implemented by Kenya Power and the Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC), has driven socioeconomic growth by connecting households to affordable and reliable electricity and improving the business environment, thereby bridging the energy divide and alleviating livelihoods. During the commissioning of the Last Mile

Connectivity in Kinango, Kwale County, in May 2026, President William Ruto said Ksh1 billion had been set aside for connecting 15,000 new households to electricity by the end of this year. "We want equality in this country," President Ruto said.

According to a March 2023 Auditor-General's report titled Performance Audit Report on Implementation of the Last Mile Connectivity Project by the Ministry of Energy and Petroleum and the Kenya Power, the intervention has cleared the path for a more sustainable and empowered future.

Since its launch, the report underscored, the transformative project has brought a stream of benefits to beneficiaries stretching from generation of job opportunities



Rural Electrification and Renewable Energy Corporation (REREC) truck carrying electricity poles to be used in connecting power to homes in Kwale County. PHOTO | REREC.

during the implementation stage of the project, unleashing business potential, enabling students to study for extended hours from the comfort of their homes, increased access to information, as well as improved security. The Project was funded through loans by development partners and counterpart funding from the

Government. Phase I, Phase II and Phase III of the Project were expected to cost approximately Ksh63 billion, out of which Ksh.47 billion was from loans provided by the World Bank (WB) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Ksh16 billion was to be counterpart funding from the Government of Kenya.

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Energy CS Opiyo Wandayi presided over the lighting of Lake Kamnorok Primary School and the home of Micah and Rhoda Kurgat, beneficiaries of the Last Mile Project. PHOTO |REREC.

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The first phase was officially launched in 2015 to connect households and non-commercial entities located within a 600-metre radius of existing distribution transformers, with the target being 314,200 households.

Through financing from the African Development Bank, connection fee was reduced from Ksh35,000 to Ksh15,000 to enable all low-income earners to access electricity. The project also provided the beneficiaries with the flexibility of paying the amount in instalments on their monthly electricity bill.

The project was done up until 2019, although the period of 2015-2017 was the most work-intensive in terms of connections. The work persisted, and the country was able to add 195,483 households by 2020, which is approximately 87% of the target.

Project Background

The Auditor's report stated that under the project, KPLC was tasked with maximising the use of its 40,000 distribution transformers spread across the country, while REREC focused on expanding of MV (Medium Voltage) and LV (Low Voltage) lines to improve reticulation in rural areas.

“The project was also expected to lead to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and clean energy for all. Realisation of SDG 7 is critical to attainment of SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure and SDG 4 on quality education, among others. It was therefore, necessary to ascertain whether implementation of the project contributed towards achievement of SDG 7,” the document underscored.

The project had targeted to connect 1,145,957 beneficiaries to the national grid. This was to be done in four phases, with Phase I, Phase II, Phase III and Phase IV targeting to connect 314,200, 312,500, 314,937 and 181,320 beneficiaries, respectively.

The expected commencement dates for Phases I, II, III and IV were December 2014, September 2015, October 2016 and June 2018, respectively. The expected completion dates for Phases I, II, III and IV were February 2019, December 2019, March 2020 and March 2022, respectively.

The audit report revealed that the project did not achieve fully the objective connecting the targeted 766,173 beneficiaries within the stipulated timelines. As at the time

“
The project was also expected to lead to the attainment of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 of ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and clean energy for all. Realisation of SDG 7 is critical to attainment of SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure and SDG 4 on quality education, among others.

of the audit in April 2022, 683,762 beneficiaries had been connected to electricity, representing 89% of the targeted beneficiaries.

Phases I, II and III of the Last Mile Connectivity Project were initially targeted to connect 941,637 customers. After the design phase, the target was revised downwards to 766,173 customers. The revision was as result of some of the targeted beneficiaries having been connected to electricity before the design phase was finalised.

The report further pointed out that KPLC progress reports established that 683,762 beneficiaries – which is equivalent to 89% of the 766,173 initially targeted beneficiaries –

had been connected to electricity through the project as at April 30, 2022.

The Beneficiaries

Nevertheless, the project benefited the Coastal region massively. The region had not been connected to the national grid for a long period of time. The project targeted to connect over 53,000 households across the six coastal devolved units of Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, Lamu, Tana River, and Taita Taveta.

Kilifi County saw a significant undertaking with over 25,000 households connected to electricity. In Taita Taveta, roughly Ksh1.3 billion was used to connect about 15,000 households in like Mata and Kroghan villages to electricity.

In Kwale County, the project targeted 5,000 households at a cost of Ksh1.8 billion to target, and this was achieved in mid-2020.

On the other hand, Lamu County is witnessed the first-ever major grid connection to schools like Mpeketoni High School, reflecting the shift from off-grid to national grid.

Western Kenya

In Western Kenya region – which

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consists of Kakamega, Vihiga, Bungoma, and Busia counties – the Government allocated Ksh6.3 billion to connect an additional 88,991 households.

In Kakamega, more than Ksh2.37 billion was channelled towards the connection of more than 36,700 households. The county has enjoyed electrification, which has steadily risen from 31 % in 2013 to over 75% by 2025.

In Bungoma, an additional KSh1.9 billion was earmarked for 27,000 new houses. In Vihiga County, the project successfully targeted 15,000 households. In Busia, 29,477 households were successfully connected to the electric grid by November 2025.

In the Rift Valley, the project has seen success following the National Optical Fiber Backbone Infrastructure connection to all county headquarters. The success is also on account of REREC establishing energy centres in Eldoret, Kericho, Lodwar, and Marsabit to provide technical support to the locals.

In Bomet, three schemes – Sonokwek, Kiptergegian, and Kelonget – were successfully launched to target over 300 households in villages various. In Nakuru, multiple schemes were set up, with the most successful one taking place in Kuresoi North, with a target of 10,000 households; the project is now functional.

According to the Economic Survey 2026, the last mile project has been a boon for public facilities such as schools and markets.

Domestic Demand

The survey underlined that progressive electricity connections to public facilities rested at 64,703 as at 2025. Schools, the report indicated, represented the largest share of these connections at 33,136, followed by other public facilities at 16,501 and markets at 9,880. Health facilities recorded 5,186 connections during the same period. “Total domestic demand for electricity increased by 9.6 per cent to 11,783.5 GWh in 2025. Sales to domestic and small commercial consumers increased by 13.8 per cent to 5,073.1 GWh in 2025,” the survey said.

For instance, through the Chemususu Water Project in Baringo County, powerhouses were set up to pump and distribute

potable water to households, farmers, and surrounding social facilities across Eldama Ravine and Mogotio constituencies. The project was commissioned in August 2024.

In Narok, too, the Olderkesi mini-grid power plant has provided clean solar energy to the Olderkesi Shopping Centre and surrounding households. The project was commissioned in October 2022.

In Kajiado, REREC report shows that over 5,000 residents in Kajiado Central are now benefitting from completed grid extensions.

Additionally, Central Kenya, experienced extensive electricity connectivity. In Nyandarua County, for example, over 1,700 households were connected to the grid at a cost of Ksh1.6 billion. As of May 2026, the implementing agencies met their target after connecting Manata and Matakqua villages.

In Kiambu, REREC took charge of electrifying St Paul, Ngoma Tupu, Munyaka, and Ndururumo villages, onboarding over 426 households. In Muranga, projects worth Ksh51 million were completed across 18 separate schemes targeting 1,018 households. In Nyeri County, by late 2018, over 400 homes were connected across the six constituencies.

Inclusive Growth

In Eastern Kenya, the Government was looking at increasing connectivity to the grid and increasing off-grid access. In Kitui County, the government launched a programme worth Ksh 2.3 billion targeting 226 separate electrification schemes. As of 2026, over 16,466 households have been connected.

The REREC also undertook the installation of solar-powered floodlights in Machakos and Kitui markets to enhance security and increase the hours of trade. In Embu and Makeni counties, the agency concentrated on connections to public facilities and surrounding households as it continues on with the project. Going by Economic Survey 2026 data, the project has reinvigorated the business environment. As at 2025, the report indicates, sales to large and medium commercial and industrial consumers increased by 3.7per cent to stand at 5,719.1 GWh.

Sales under the rural electrification category rose by 20.3 per cent to 823.85 GWh in 2025.

Total electricity imports rose

by 12.3 per cent to 1,721.1GWh in 2025, while exports improved to 200.3 GWh from 42.8 GWh in 2024. Local generation expanded by 6.2 per cent to 13,343.9 GWh in 2025. At the same time, the report showed that transmission and distributive losses declined by 6.8 per cent to 3,083.9 GWh in 2025.

“In addition, electricity sales under the rural electrification category increased by 20.3 per cent to 823.9 GWh, reflecting continued expansion of electricity access across the country. Transmission and distributive losses reduced by 6.8 per cent to 3,083.9 GWh in 2025,” the report states.

In Kakamega,
more than
**Ksh
2.37
billion**
was channelled
towards the
connection of
more than 36,700
households.



Eldama Ravine MP Musa Sirma officiated the official commissioning of the AIC Tumon Rural Electrification Project in Eldama Ravine Constituency, Baringo County. PHOTO | REREC.

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Bungoma National Polytechnic students pose for a group photograph after a training session from March 9, 2026 to March 13, 2026 through the hub. PHOTO | BNP.

Bungoma emerges as Western Kenya's digital skills powerhouse

By Obed Simiyu

The Digital Hub initiative at St. Augustine's Senior Seminary in Mabanga, Bungoma County, marks a significant step in integrating technology into priestly formation through a high-level state partnership aimed at strengthening digital literacy and infrastructure in theological education.

St. Augustine's Senior Seminary is the only national diocesan philosophical seminary for the Catholic Church in Kenya, offering the first three-year cycle of philosophical training for seminarians under the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB).

The institution currently hosts more than 250 seminarians pursuing a Baccalaureate in Philosophy in affiliation with the Pontifical Urban University in Rome.

The establishment of the digital hub has been hailed by the Speaker of the National Assembly, Moses Wetang'ula, as a game changer and emphasised the need to strengthen the institution's technological

capacity. President William Ruto's Kenya Kwanza government facilitated the provision of key ICT resources to support learning and research.

Central to the initiative is the donation of 100 computers used to set up a modern digital laboratory aimed at improving access to academic resources, enhancing research capacity and supporting digital learning among seminarians.

The hub is expected to serve as a critical academic support facility, enabling students to integrate technology into their studies while building competencies in digital communication and information management.

The initiative aligns with Kenya's broader national ICT agenda, which seeks to expand digital infrastructure across learning institutions and equip students with relevant skills for an increasingly technology-driven world.

Three hundred digital hubs have already been completed in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions across the country.

The government is also targeting the establishment and equipping of digital hubs in all 1,450

wards nationwide, forming an interconnected digital superhighway aimed at expanding access to government services, online employment opportunities, and digital entrepreneurship.

Kisiwa Hub

The Government has expanded its digital skills agenda with the official commissioning of the Jitume Kazi Digital Hub at Kisiwa Technical Training Institute (TTI) in Bungoma County, a project aimed at equipping young people with practical ICT skills and linking them to opportunities in the digital economy.

The initiative, unveiled on February 24, 2023 by the Ministry of Information, Communication and the Digital Economy, forms part of the wider Jitume Programme that seeks to strengthen digital infrastructure within Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions across the country.

"The project will provide Bungoma youths with the digital skills and opportunities as the devices are fitted with a software to perform artificial intelligence among other online jobs.," Bungoma governor Kenneth Lusaka said during the commissioning.

This hub provides learners with access to modern ICT facilities, enabling them to acquire relevant digital competencies, undertake online work, and improve their employability in a rapidly evolving job market.

It has been equipped with modern computer laboratories intended to

“
Through the Jitume Digital Training, participants have gained valuable competencies in digital tools, online opportunities, and modern technology that will enable them to thrive in education, entrepreneurship, and employment,
”

support training in digital skills, online work readiness, and research. The centre is expected to serve both students and youth from around the institution, offering them access to technology and structured digital learning opportunities.

The Jitume Programme is a key component of the government's broader digital transformation strategy, which focuses on addressing youth unemployment by creating pathways into online jobs and digital entrepreneurship.

The initiative is anchored on expanding access to ICT infrastructure, building digital capacity among young people, and integrating technology into learning institutions to ensure graduates are competitive in the global digital economy.

Bungoma National Poly

In the same county, locals, students and anybody interested has already started benefitting through the digital hubs with the Bungoma National Polytechnic having already rolled out trainings.

The institutions held a training session from March 9, 2026 to March 13, 2026 through the hub.

This training was designed to equip participants with essential digital knowledge that will help them in employment, entrepreneurship, and innovation in the modern digital economy.

"Bungoma National Polytechnic proudly celebrates another successful cohort of trainees who have completed the Jitume Digital Skills Training Program. The training has empowered participants with practical digital knowledge and skills essential for today's technology-driven world," the institution said in its update. "Through the Jitume Digital Training, participants have gained valuable competencies in digital tools, online opportunities, and modern technology that will enable them to thrive in education, entrepreneurship, and employment," it added.

Matili Hub

The digital hub at Matili Technical Training Institute (MaTTI) in Bungoma County is emerging as a key centre for digital empowerment under the Government of Kenya's National Digital Master Plan and the Jitume Programme.



Join Milestone Badge as a Columnist

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?

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



Milestone Badge platform logo. PHOTO | Milestone Badge

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.





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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