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KENYAN LEADERS' DEVELOPMENT RECORD

ISSUE NO. 009

**Development record of
Amina Dika as **Tana River
Woman Representative****

**VOLUME
— 01 —**

AMINA DIKA ABDULLAHI PROFILE

Hon. Amina Dika Abdullahi
Woman Representative, Tana River County
Nationality: Kenyan

Hon. Amina Dika Abdullahi is the current Tana River County Woman Member to the National Assembly (Woman Representative) elected on a Kenya African National Union (KANU) party ticket. She has a strong background in business management, sales, marketing and organisational leadership.

Hon. Dika has built a career spanning the hospitality, healthcare and business sectors. Her experience combines academic training with practical expertise in sales management, operations and administration, developed through work with internationally recognised organisations.



EDUCATION BACKGROUND

From	To	Institution	Qualification
2014/15	2017/18	East African University	Degree in Business Management (Sales and Marketing)
2005	2015	Marriott Learning Centre	Certificate – Sales & Marketing
2002	2003	Institute of Commercial Management – UK	Diploma

PROFESSIONAL CAREER EXPERIENCE

Company	Position	Year
Samua Medicals	Operations Manager	2020 – 2021
The Ritz-Carlton, DIFC	Group Sales Manager	2015 – 2017
The Ritz-Carlton, DIFC	Assistant Sales Manager	2014 – 2015
The Ritz-Carlton, DIFC	Sales Executive	2011 – 2014
Dusit Marina / Princess	Sales Executive	2008 – 2011

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES
Hon Dika is a member of the Parliamentary Committee on Labour and the Parliamentary Committee of Social Protection.

HONOURS AND AWARDS
Hon Dika’s performance in the hospitality sector earned recognition through nominations for Nominee of the Quarter at The Ritz-Carlton DIFC in 2012 and again in 2016.

AREAS OF INTEREST
Her areas of interest include transport, public works and housing, energy, and health. With a career grounded in sales, marketing, administration and management, and experience gained from both local and international institutions, she brings a combination of business expertise, leadership skills and practical management experience.

How Amina Dika's empowerment programmes are improving lives in Tana River

Report ID: MB-2026-08-0001-A1 |
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Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika Abdullahi rolled out a wide range of development and empowerment programmes to improve livelihoods and expand opportunities for residents across the county.

Her interventions have focused on women and youth empowerment,

education, healthcare, agriculture, water access, sports development, support for people living with disabilities and humanitarian assistance during emergencies.

Through the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF), partnerships with development agencies and community outreach programmes, her office has brought services and resources closer to residents across different parts of Tana River

County.

The programmes have largely centred on practical support, including grants, business equipment, livestock, agricultural inputs, school facilities, sports equipment and emergency relief supplies. The approach is intended to enable communities to strengthen their livelihoods while addressing some of the immediate challenges facing vulnerable households.

Women's economic empowerment

Women's economic empowerment is a major component of Ms Dika's development agenda. Her office has supported self-help groups and community-based organisations with equipment and financial assistance intended to help them establish or expand income-generating activities.

During empowerment programmes in Kipini West Ward, women in Lailoni, Tara and Manono



Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika interacts with women during an empowerment programme in Kipini West Ward on August 22, 2026. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

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Hon Amina Dika addressing women in Kipini Ward during her empowerment programme on August 22, 2026. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Hon Amina Dika, the Tana River County Woman Representative addressed women from Kipini Ward where he held an empowerment programme on August 22, 2026. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

villages received chairs, tents, blankets, food supplies and a maize-grinding machine. The equipment was intended to support community activities while providing groups with opportunities to generate income.

Similar interventions have been implemented in other parts of the county. Women’s groups in Haboye, Elboka, Ongola, Waldena, Kone Kaliti, Dokke, Kalalani, Lakole and Kesi have received tents, chairs, cooking equipment and other supplies to support their activities.

In Galedertu Sub-County, Ms

Dika spent Ksh1.1 million on empowerment programmes. Eleven community-based organisations received grants of Ksh100,000 each to support local projects.

Other women’s groups in Kikomo, Kipini, Hamesa, Bandi, Idsowe, Titila and Tarassa have benefited from tents, chairs, posho mills, tailoring machines, seeds and utensils.

The provision of posho mills and other business equipment is particularly aimed at giving women’s groups sustainable sources of income. The groups use

the equipment to provide services within their communities and generate revenue.

Ms Dika’s office has also distributed livestock, including sheep and goats, to women and youth groups in villages such as Chiri, Elneka, Elomara, Kurundu and Odowan. Such interventions seek to provide beneficiaries with productive assets to support household incomes.

Through her empowerment programmes, several women’s groups have also received tents, chairs and cooking equipment,

which they hire out during social and community functions.

Youth empowerment

Youth empowerment is another important pillar of Ms Dika’s programmes. Her interventions often target enterprise development and employment opportunities.

Youth groups in Handaraku,



Kipini Beach Management members try on life-saving equipment donated by area Woman Representative Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Hon Amina Dika during and empowerment programme in Galledertu sub-county, Galole Constituency on June 21, 2026 where she distributed 7 tents, 700 chairs, dozens of sufurias and plates for women groups and a water pump, car wash machine, haircut machines, sports jerseys and balls for youth football teams. She also gave 11 CBOs cheques worth Ksh100,000. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

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Bakalcha, Kesi, Kipao and other areas have received grants ranging from Ksh100,000 to Ksh300,000 to support their businesses. The financial assistance, often complemented by equipment, is designed to help young people establish income-generating projects.

Among the equipment distributed are car wash machines, water pumps, haircut machines and farming equipment. Car wash machines, for example, enable youth groups to establish service-based enterprises and generate income for their members.

Ms Dika’s office has also supported boda boda groups and other youth organisations through financial assistance and equipment. In Madogo and Sala wards, youth, women and boda boda groups received tents, chairs and cash ranging from Ksh100,000 to Ksh300,000.

Sports have been another avenue for youth engagement. The Woman Representative’s office has donated football jerseys and balls to teams in different parts of the county, including Galole, Kipao, Garsen, Kipini, Shelli, Danisa, Konkona, Tullu, Malakoteni and Bandi.

Other beneficiaries include Sango Football Team and more than 30 football teams in Mororo and Sala wards. The support not only promotes sporting talent but also encourages young people to participate in constructive activities that foster teamwork and social cohesion.

Investment in education

Education remains a key pillar of Ms Dika’s development agenda, with support targeting both learners and schools.

Through NGAAF, bursaries have been issued to students in secondary schools, colleges, tertiary institutions and universities. In Bangal Ward, Ksh3.2 million was disbursed to support students, while a further Ksh1.9 million was issued through bursary programmes in Bura.

The bursary programme seeks to ease the financial burden on families and enable students from



The maize milling machine (posho mill) donated to one of the women’s groups in Gatundu and Shauri Moyo by Hon Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

disadvantaged households to continue with their education.

Her office has also invested in school infrastructure. Desks and chairs have been distributed to schools in different parts of the county, including Galedertu, Kipao, Galili, Lailoni and Kenyatta Primary School in Ballo village.

In Kipao, for instance, the office donated 50 desks to Kipao Primary School, while Kenyatta Primary

School in Ballo received 50 desks and 50 chairs. Lailoni Primary School also benefited from desks and cooking appliances.

Ms Dika’s office has also donated solar panels and water storage facilities to schools. In Bangal Ward, five schools received solar panels, while water tanks were provided to institutions facing water shortages.

Support for Girls, Women’s Health

Promoting the welfare and dignity of school-going girls is another component of the education

programme.

Ms Dika’s office launched a sanitary towels programme targeting 14,114 girls in 178 primary schools across Tana River County. The initiative seeks to address one of the barriers that can affect girls’ school attendance and participation.

Sanitary towels have been distributed directly to schools and girls in areas including Kipao and Bangal as part of broader community outreach programmes.

Healthcare and disability support

INVESTMENT IN EDUCATION - HON. DIKA'S AGENDA

DATE: 2024

EDUCATION: A KEY PILLAR OF DEVELOPMENT

Education remains a key pillar of Ms Dika’s development agenda, with support targeting both learners and schools.

SECTION 1: BURSARY PROGRAMMES & STUDENT SUPPORT

BURSARIES DISTRIBUTED

Through NGAAF, bursaries issued to students in secondary schools, colleges, tertiary institutions & universities.

BANGAL WARD:

Ksh 3.2 Million

BURA:

Ksh 1.9 Million

OBJECTIVES OF BURSARY PROGRAM

Ease financial burden on families

Enable students from disadvantaged households to continue education.

Path forward

SECTION 2: SCHOOL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS

DISTRIBUTION OF DESKS & CHAIRS

Desks & chairs distributed to schools in Galedertu, Kipao, Galili, Lailoni & Kenyatta Primary School.

KIPAO PRIMARY SCHOOL:

50 Desks

KENYATTA PRIMARY SCHOOL:

50 Desks & 50 Chairs

LAILONI PRIMARY SCHOOL:

Desks & Cooking Appliances

ADDITIONAL SCHOOL SUPPORT

Bangal Ward:

5 Schools received Solar Panels

Water tanks provided to institutions facing water shortages

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The Tana River Woman Representative's office has also supported healthcare facilities and people living with disabilities through targeted interventions.

Garsen Health Centre received blood transfusion chairs to help strengthen its capacity to serve patients. The intervention forms part of efforts to equip health facilities with essential items.

People living with disabilities have also received support. The Tana River Umbrella Organization received three tricycles, crutches and wheelchairs, while the Kipini Disability Fellowship benefited from wheelchairs, tricycles, white sticks and sanitary towels.

Special groups in Bangal and other areas have received wheelchairs, mattresses, bedsheets and other items to support their welfare.

These interventions are aimed at improving mobility, dignity and access to services for people who may face additional barriers because of disability or other vulnerabilities.

Agriculture and water sectors

Agriculture remains an important source of livelihoods in Tana River, and the empowerment programme has included support for farmers through agricultural inputs and irrigation equipment.

Farmers from Kipao, Guba

Haroru, Gubani, Gomesa, Diibe, Chalalu, Balo, Galili, Baliangeta, Ankolde, Odha, Bura Kofira and Ramadha received water pumps, irrigation pipes and seeds for farming at Shantama.

The support is intended to improve access to water for irrigation and enable farmers to increase agricultural production.

Water access is also a major concern for communities and institutions in the county. Through NGAAF, Bula Sukela Junior Secondary School in Bura Constituency received a water tank to support water harvesting.

Ms Dika's office has also supported fishing communities. Groups in Kipini received fishing equipment, while the Kipini Beach Management group received lifesaving equipment. Such support seeks to improve livelihoods while enhancing safety for people engaged in fishing.

Humanitarian and disaster response

Tana River is regularly affected by flooding, and humanitarian assistance has therefore formed an important part of the Woman Representative's interventions.

During periods of heavy rains and El Niño-related flooding, Ms Dika's office distributed food, mattresses, blankets and other relief supplies to affected families in several parts

of the county. The interventions covered communities in Bura, Galole, Garsen, Kipini West and Galedertu sub-counties. Villages affected by flooding received basic supplies to help families cope with displacement and the loss of livelihoods.

In collaboration with the Kenya Red Cross, the office also supported 10 women and youth groups in villages including Kalkacha, Gururi, Wayu Boro, Wayu Duka, Daba Mata Gala, Marsa, Waldena, Kitole Dadu and Anabu. Each group received 15 goats, while 120 desks were donated to schools in the affected areas.

Other relief distributions targeted communities in Maramtu, Isgosate, Mororo, Boji, Ziwani, Bakuyu Mathengeni, Bula Baraka, Sombo, Gora, Bili and Haqankareti, among other villages.

Food distribution programmes have also been undertaken in Bangal Ward, including in Bula Wange, Bula Sheqal, Bula Mzungu, Bula Alango, Bula Shukrio, Bulto Banta, Bale Neeqa and Bisan Hargeysa.

Additional support reached households in Hosingo, Wales Tokocha, Wales Onrea, Sabukie and Titila Muka.

These interventions have provided immediate relief to families facing food insecurity

and other impacts of flooding and adverse weather.

Community outreach

Community engagement has remained a central feature of Ms Dika's leadership approach. Rather than limiting interventions to offices and formal programmes, her team has conducted visits to villages and local groups to identify needs and deliver support directly to beneficiaries.

The launch of the Woman Representative's office in Galole Constituency was intended to bring services closer to residents and improve access to government programmes.

Amina Dika Abdullahi's development agenda in Tana River County has focused on expanding opportunities and improving livelihoods through grassroots empowerment.

The initiatives reflect an approach that combines immediate assistance with longer-term empowerment. By supporting women and youth groups with productive assets, investing in education and agriculture, promoting sports and responding to emergencies, the programmes seek to strengthen household incomes, improve access to essential services and create greater opportunities for communities across Tana River County.



Wheelchairs, posho mills, sufurias, lifesavers donated to groups in Kipini East ward by area Woman Representative Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Hon Amina Dika, the Tana River Woman Representative distributed sanitary towels to learners of Kipao Primary School on July 14, 2024 in a bid to ensure girls do not miss school due to lack of the essential pads. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Understanding Amina Dika's Tana River school retention programme

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Hundreds of vulnerable schoolgirls across Tana River County are benefiting from a free sanitary towel distribution programme aimed at promoting girls' academic performance and learner retention between primary and secondary school.

The initiative, which is championed by Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika, has minimised drop-outs, reduced reproductive tract infections and improved general hygiene among adolescents and young girls.

The continuous programme targets breaking taboos surrounding menstruation,

encouraging open discussions and reducing stigma. The lack of access to hygienic sanitary products is identified as a major impediment to girls' education in rural public schools across the country.

The outreach is designed to prevent adolescent girls from missing or dropping out of school, or resorting to unhygienic methods due to their inability to afford basic disposable menstrual hygiene products.

In Tana River County, a marginalised region, many young girls miss school due to inadequate and unclean toilets, a lack of disposable sanitary pads, cultural taboos and misinformation about menstrual health.

But for Hon. Dika, the intervention to provide students with sanitary

towels is promoting gender equality and access to education.

On May 19, 2026, the project was officially rolled out following the distribution of 23,400 packs of sanitary towels to 178 public schools across the five sub-counties, a move that echoed Dika's commitment to the fight against period poverty.

The medical-grade sanitary pads, estimated to be more than 100,000, were distributed to schools located in Tana Delta, Tana River, Tana North, Galedyertu and Bangal. Additionally, they were sourced under the centralised National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) special gender interventions budget.

Some of the schools that received the pads were Kalkacha

Primary School in Galole, Minjila Primary School located in the Tana Delta, Kipao Primary School within Garsen, and Furaha Primary School, also in Garsen.

More importantly, the supplies provided the beneficiaries with a sufficient one-year supply of pads to entirely prevent period-related school absenteeism.

The initiative represents a coordinated effort between NGAAF, the State Department for Gender and local county leadership to tackle high levels of period poverty in marginalised rural areas.

Many girls in rural primary schools play truant when their monthly menstrual cycle begins because they are subjected to embarrassment and ridicule due to

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GIRLS' EDUCATION & SANITATION: A COMPOUNDING CRISIS



CUMULATIVE IMPACT: LEARNING DAYS LOST



THE SOLUTION: SAFE & CLEAN SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS

WILL HELP GIRLS
EXCEL IN SCHOOL

Figures illustrate compounding impact of inadequate or lack of WASH access in rural schools.

promoting good hygiene, behaviour and children's well-being. The adequacy of sanitary facilities is a critical issue in a girl's life. Most aspects of a girl's life are affected by a lack of sanitary facilities, thus lowering the girl's self-esteem and confidence.

Approximately one in 10 school-age African girls does not attend school during menstruation or drops out at puberty because of a lack of clean and private sanitation facilities in schools. A safe and clean school environment will help girls excel in school.

A girl who is absent for four days in a 28-day menstrual cycle loses 13 learning days per school term, which is equivalent to two full weeks of classes. In an academic year of nine months, a girl loses 39 learning days, equivalent to six weeks of learning time in every school term. These figures illustrate the compounding impact that inadequate or lack of access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) has on students in rural schools.

Consequently, the intervention spearheaded by Dika has helped to keep the affected girls in school, placing them at par with their male counterparts. This has ultimately provided them with a fighting chance and the right impetus to positively shape their futures.

The programme has demonstrated that access to sanitary towels is a crucial step towards the well-being of young girls across the county, with the leader targeting to ramp up similar efforts to promote menstrual health knowledge.

The intervention represents an important milestone in strengthening menstrual dignity and supporting the education of girls from low-income households.

The impact of the outreach has been immense. School absenteeism has reduced, and girls have been protected from would-be predators who would lure them into sexual favours in exchange for the commodity.

menstruation. Bullying and shame from peers over accidental stains deter class attendance.

These challenges, together with extremely intense menstrual pain — owing to limited access to basic pain relief medication such as ibuprofen — and a lack of effective materials for menstrual hygiene management, lead to school absenteeism, thus impeding good academic performance because the girls miss up to 20% of the school year. Additionally, period poverty causes rural primary school girls to play truant every month due to a lack of sanitary products, inadequate sanitation and social stigma. With no pads, the girls use unsafe alternatives such as rags, leaves or newspapers to manage their periods because they lack access to affordable, proper

menstrual hygiene products. This challenge is commonly referred to as period poverty.

Secondly, poor sanitation facilities in rural schools, such as inadequate toilets, create severe health, safety and educational challenges for learners. The schools often lack private latrines, clean water or disposal bins.

In the county, overcrowded toilets, whereby the ratios fall far below the recommended standard of one toilet for every 25 girls, are a source of concern. Rural schools often see up to 46 girls sharing a single stall.

Due to most rural latrines lacking running water, doors with locks or private changing rooms, changing pads during

menstruation is deeply stressful and embarrassing. The schools frequently lack safe disposal bins or incinerators, which compels the girls to wrap, hide or improperly flush used pads, causing severe plumbing blockages and foul conditions that shut down some of the facilities entirely.

Health risks are another component afflicting the girls, with poor sanitation leading to higher rates of urinary tract infections, stomach ailments and missed learning days. Even when free pads are distributed, the physical environment forces many girls to stay at home on heavy-flow days.

Water and sanitary facilities in schools are increasingly recognised as fundamental to

How Amina Dika is turning farming and fishing into jobs for Tana River youth



Hon Amina Dika attending a fundraiser organised by Jinja Youths Community Based Organisation (CBO) on September 24, 2023 where she contributed Ksh120,000, 15 goats and a farming machine in Galili Village. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

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Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika Abdullahi has made economic empowerment a key focus of her development programme, targeting farmers, women and youth groups with productive assets to strengthen agriculture and fishing livelihoods.

Her interventions have focused on providing equipment and resources that enable communities to engage in income-generating activities rather than relying solely on direct financial assistance.

The programme has included water pumps, irrigation pipes, seeds, farming machinery, fishing equipment and livestock. Agriculture and fishing are particularly important because they provide opportunities for self-employment and can support jobs beyond the primary activity.

Farming as a Source of Jobs

Agriculture is at the centre of Dika's empowerment programme, with her office supporting farmers to overcome one of the biggest constraints to production in Tana River — access to reliable water.

Farmers from Kipao, Guba Haroru, Gubani, Gomesa, Diibe, Chalalu, Balo, Galili, Baliangeta, Ankolde, Odha, Bura Kofira and Ramadha, who cultivate farms in the Shantama area, received water pumps, irrigation pipes and seeds.

The equipment has allowed farmers to irrigate their land and potentially increase the area and frequency of cultivation. Increased production has created demand for labour during land preparation, planting, weeding and harvesting.

A separate intervention in Dayate also involved the distribution of water pumps and pipes to support agricultural production. The emphasis on irrigation is

particularly significant in Tana River, where farmers face water shortages and unpredictable weather. By helping farmers access water, the programme has made agriculture a more reliable source of income.



Hon Amina Dika when she donated water bumps, pipes and seeds to farmers from Kipao, Guba Haroru, Gubani, Gomesa, Diibe, Chalalu, Balo, Galili, Baliangeta, Ankolde, Odha, Bura Kofira and Ramadha villages farming at Shantama farm on June 24, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Youth targeted

Young people are a major focus of the empowerment programme. At Galili Village, the Jinja Youth Community-Based Organisation received a farming machine, 15 goats and financial support.

The farming machine has given the group an opportunity to improve its own agricultural production and potentially provide services to other farmers. Such an asset has created opportunities for young people in machinery operation, cultivation and farm services.

The intervention has also given the group an entry point into the wider agricultural value chain, including produce handling, transport and marketing.

The goats provide an additional source of income through livestock keeping and breeding, allowing the youth organisation to diversify its economic activities.

Water investment

Water is a critical part of the employment strategy because agricultural production cannot expand without reliable supplies.

The Shantama farmers received pumps and irrigation pipes, while Delta Kumekucha CBO in Mji wa Pili, Garsen, received a water storage tank.

For farmers, irrigation has

Continued from page 10 →

reduced dependence on rainfall and allowed production to continue for longer periods. For livestock keepers, reliable water is essential for animals.

Investment in water has supported the wider Tana River rural economy by providing the infrastructure needed for productive activities.

Fishing as a livelihood

Fishing is another important pillar of Dika's empowerment programme, particularly for communities along the Tana River and the county's coastal areas.

Dika's office has supported fishing groups with equipment. The Kise group received fishing equipment, while the Kipini Beach Management group received life-saving equipment.

The support is aimed at strengthening an economic activity that communities already practise. Better equipment has improved the ability of fishing groups to operate and earn income, while life-saving equipment has helped reduce the risks faced by people working on the water.

The economic impact of fishing extends beyond the fishermen themselves. Increased catches have supported traders,

transporters and other businesses that depend on the sector.

Alternative income stream

Livestock is also part of Dika's empowerment programme. The Jinja Youth Community-Based Organisation received 15 goats alongside the farming machine and financial support.

Livestock provides households and groups with an additional source of income through breeding and sales. It has also acted as a buffer when crop production is disrupted by drought and floods.

Following the El Niño floods, Dika's office worked with the Kenya Red Cross to support women and youth groups with livestock, helping affected communities rebuild their productive capacity.

From Assets to Self-Employment
The common thread running through the programme is the use of productive assets to support self-employment.

Water pumps have made previously underused Tana River farmland productive. Irrigation pipes provided by Dika's office have extended farmers' access to water.

Similarly, fishing equipment



Hon Amina Dika when she donated water bumps, pipes and seeds to residents farming at Shantama farm on June 24, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Shantama farmers receiving farm equipment donated by area Woman Representative Amina Dika in June 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



livelihood, while livestock has provided an asset that grows through breeding and can be sold when income is needed.

Building grassroots economy

Dika's empowerment programme is built around strengthening economic activities that already form part of Tana River's rural economy.

Agriculture remains the largest focus, with irrigation equipment, pumps, pipes and seeds intended to increase production.

Fishing support seeks to strengthen livelihoods along the river and coast, while livestock gives women and youth groups another source of income.

For Tana River's youth, these interventions provide opportunities to earn a living within sectors that are already central to the county's economy.



Tana River County Woman Representative Amina Dika on a tour of Shantama farm on June 24, 2026. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Tana River Woman Rep Amina Dika's infrastructure footprint



Sheli Community Social Hall sponsored by Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

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The Hon Abdullahi Amina Dika has sought to use her position as Tana River Woman Representative to expand access to public facilities and community assets, with her interventions spanning schools, social halls, water infrastructure, agricultural projects, women's and youth facilities, and support for vulnerable groups.

Through the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) and other initiatives associated with her office, Dika has supported projects and supplied equipment intended to improve learning environments, strengthen community organisations and support livelihoods across the county.

Her interventions include the construction of and support for physical infrastructure, ranging from classrooms and community halls to water facilities and

irrigation projects, alongside the provision of equipment and assets such as desks, tents, chairs, wheelchairs, solar equipment and machines for women's and youth groups.

Expanding School Infrastructure

Education infrastructure is one of the areas where Dika's office has channelled support.

At Kenyatta Primary School in Ballo village, she donated 50 desks and 50 chairs, arguing that constructing schools without providing appropriate learning infrastructure would not adequately support learners.

Her office has also equipped schools in Tana River with water tanks, desks and chairs, aimed at creating more conducive learning environments.

In Bangal, her office distributed solar panels to five schools. The interventions were aimed at addressing some of the practical challenges affecting learners while improving access to basic

amenities.

At Kipao Primary School in Garsen Constituency, she handed over 50 desks, adding to efforts to improve the physical learning environment.

Sheli Community Hall

One of the prominent community

infrastructure projects associated with Ms Dika is the Sheli Community Hall.

The facility provides space for meetings, community activities and social functions, including weddings. The income generated from hiring the hall supports women's groups.

Woman Rep Office in Hola

Dika has also invested in expanding the physical presence of her office.

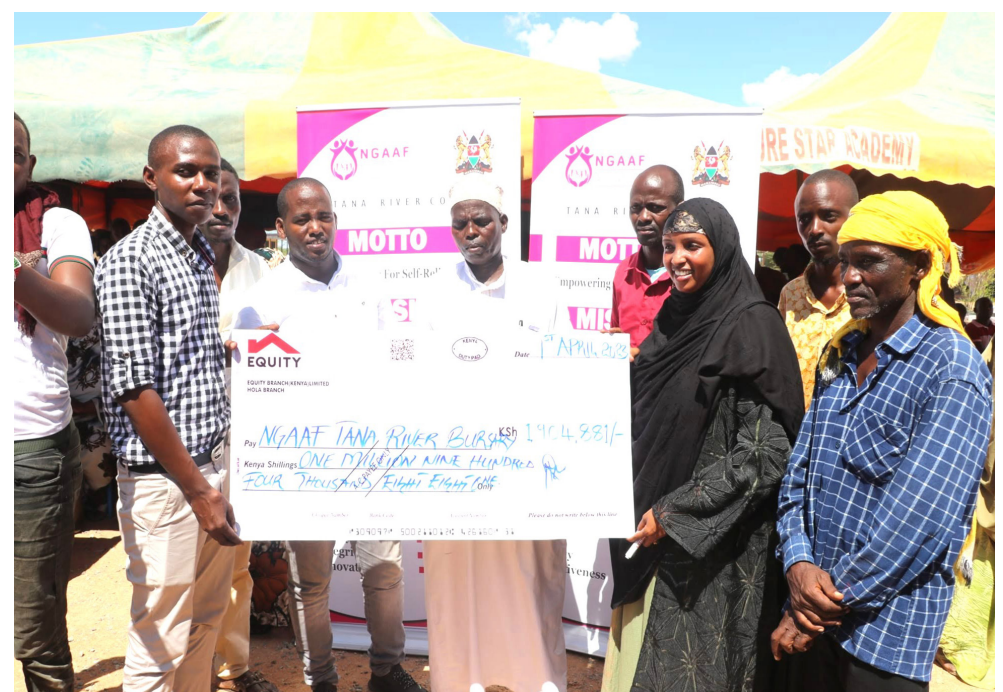
The construction of the Woman Representative's office, known as Chufana House, in Hola Town in Galole Constituency, is intended to bring services closer to local residents.

The project forms part of the Woman Representative's efforts to decentralise services and maintain a presence across the county's constituencies.

Water Infrastructure

Water remains one of Tana River's most pressing development challenges, and Dika's interventions have included support for water-harvesting and irrigation infrastructure.

Through NGAAF, her office



Hon Amina Dika disbursing bursary funds to schools to benefit learners. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

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Sheli Community Social Hall sponsored by Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

donated a water tank to Bula Sukela Junior Secondary School in Bura Constituency to enable the institution to harvest and store water.

Her work on water infrastructure has also been linked to the broader irrigation agenda in the county.

She has overseen the construction of the Phase II Gravity Canal Project in Bura Constituency. The National Irrigation Authority-funded gravity canal is designed to improve the supply of irrigation

water to farmers in the area.

Dika has described the project as a potentially life-changing investment for residents and encouraged farmers to take advantage of improved water access by investing in crops such as maize and rice.

Facilities for Women and Youth Groups

A significant portion of the physical assets distributed through her office has gone to women's and youth groups.



Sufurias and plates donated to women groups in Hamesa Central to help them generate income by renting them out for events in 2024. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

activities by hiring out the equipment.

In Kipini East Ward, the Kipini Women Group received tents and chairs.

Two women's groups in Gatundu and Shauri Moyo also received maize-milling machines, giving them productive equipment.

At Kipao, two women's groups received a posho mill machine, tents and chairs.

Youth and Sports Facilities

Youth groups have also received equipment under Dika's programmes.

At Kipini, two youth groups received car-wash machines.

In Bangal, a car-wash machine was among the equipment distributed to support young people in their economic activities.

Public Institutions and Community Facilities

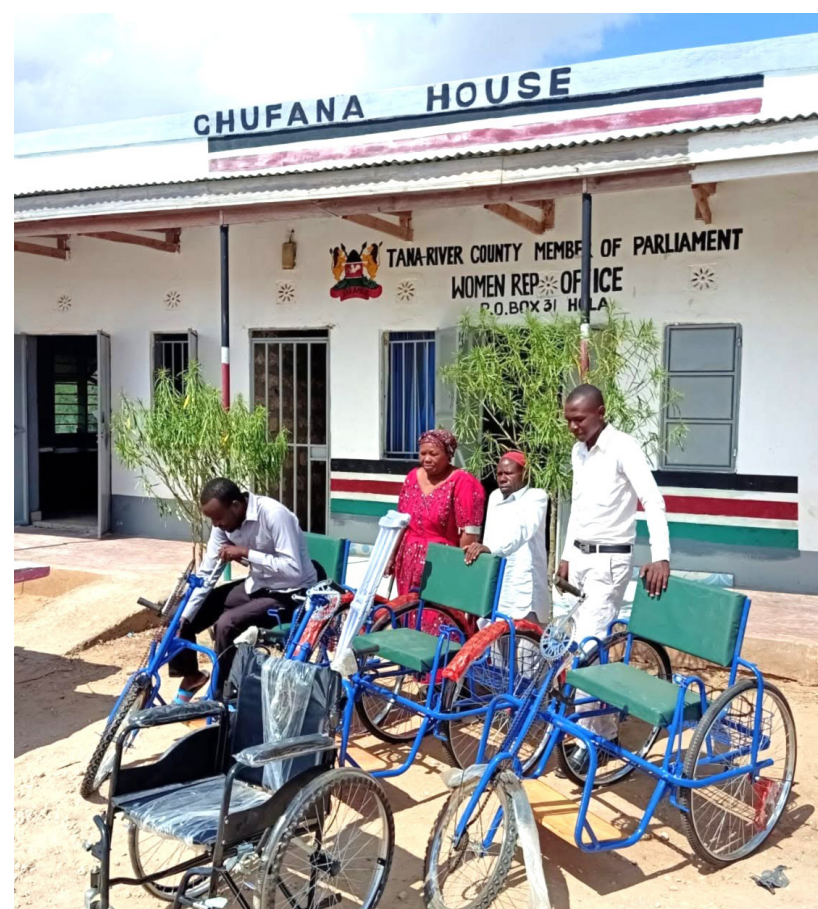
In Bangal Division, for example, groups received tents and 300 chairs. The equipment can be hired out, allowing community organisations to generate income from events.

Hamesa and Bandi women's groups similarly received tents and chairs through NGAAF, with the intention of enabling them to establish income-generating

Dika's interventions extend beyond schools and social halls to smaller but important community assets.

In Boka village, residents received solar lamps and solar street lights, while Mama Mboga groups received shade umbrellas.

At Kipini, the Beach Management group received life-saving equipment, while fishing equipment



Chufana House, the Office of the Woman Representative in Hola Town in Galole Constituency. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Continued on page 17 →

Hon. Amina Dika. PHOTO | Amina Dika.

Tana River
Woman Rep
Amina Dika
supported
10 women
and youth
groups from
Galedertu
Sub County
with 15 goats
each after the
devastating
El Niño rains.
PHOTO | Hon.
Amina Dika.



Dayate residents in Galole received a donation of water pumps and pipes on November 6, 2023 from their Woman Rep, Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



50 desks donated to Kipao Primary School on October 9, 2023 by Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Amina Dika shares a word with a senior citizen during a past event. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Hon Amina Dika during her swearing in in 2022 at the National Assembly as the newly elected Tana River County Woman MP. . PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Blood transfusion chairs donated to Garsen Health Centre by Hon Amina Dika in her bid to offer improved service to locals. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Hon. Amina Dika. PHOTO | Amina Dika.



School girls delighted after receiving sanitary towels following the launch of a programme to provide the essential pads to a total of 178 primary schools and at least 14,114 girls in Tana River County sponsored by area Woman Rep Amina Dika on July 19, 2024. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Hon Amina Dika enjoys a light moment during an event PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Hon Amina Dika receives an award after being recognised by Pollster Rankings as the most transformative women leader of the year 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Continued from page 14 →

was provided to the Kise group.

Three tents and 300 chairs were distributed to groups in Bangal.

Emergency services

Ms Dika's stated areas of support include equipment and facilities that contribute to public welfare, although the projects documented in her interventions show a stronger concentration on community, education, water, agricultural and group-support infrastructure.

Productive Assets

Taken together, Dika's interventions reveal three broad strands of investment.

The first is community infrastructure, represented by projects such as the Sheli Community Hall and the Chufana House office in Hola.

The second is education and basic services, including desks, chairs, water tanks, solar equipment and other supplies to schools.

The third is productive and livelihood assets, including posho mills, maize-milling machines, car-wash machines, tents, chairs, fishing equipment and other items given to women's and youth groups.



This third category is particularly significant because the assets can potentially continue generating income after the initial intervention. Dika's infrastructure contribution in Tana River is therefore best understood not simply through the number of buildings constructed, but through the combination of community facilities, school infrastructure, water assets, productive equipment

and support for larger development projects.

The Sheli Community Hall stands out as a physical community facility designed to serve women and youth beyond a single event. Chufana House provides a permanent base for her office in Hola. School interventions have focused on desks, chairs, water storage and solar equipment, while women's and youth groups have received machines, tents, chairs, sports equipment and other productive assets.

Her engagement with the Bura irrigation projects and the wider Tana Delta irrigation programme also reflects the central role of water infrastructure in the county's economic future.

The broader picture is of a Woman Representative whose development interventions have largely concentrated on grassroots infrastructure and physical assets that support education, community organisation, livelihoods and basic services, while major projects such as irrigation schemes remain dependent on national government agencies and other implementing institutions.



Delta Kumekucha CBO from Mji wa Pili pose for a memorable photo after receiving a water tank donated by area Woman Rep Amina Dika. PHOTO | Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Report ID: MB-2026-08-0005-I |
Milestone Badge

Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika Abdullahi’s development programme has placed considerable emphasis on economic empowerment, with a significant share of interventions designed to give women, youth, farmers and community organisations productive assets that can generate income and employment to improve their lives.

Besides cash, her office has supported groups with equipment and facilities that can be used to establish small enterprises, provide services to communities and create continuing sources of income.

The interventions include posho and maize-milling machines, car wash equipment, haircut machines, water pumps, irrigation equipment, farming machinery, tents and chairs, tailoring machines, fishing equipment and livestock.

These assets have been distributed to organised groups in different parts of Tana River, to enable beneficiaries to engage in businesses and livelihood activities.

Grants to assets

One of the defining features of Amina Dika’s empowerment



A beneficiary admires a sewing machine donated by Tana River Woman Rep Amina Dika in 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Inside Amina Dika’s job creation drive transforming lives in Tana River

programme is the use of physical assets as tools for economic activity.

Women and youth groups have received equipment that can be put into immediate commercial use. The model is designed to enable beneficiaries to earn money from providing services within their communities and, in turn, create opportunities for group members.

The records identify posho mills, maize-grinding machines, tailoring machines, cooking equipment, tents and chairs among the assets supplied to women’s groups.

These are not merely welfare items: they can become community-owned businesses capable of generating recurring revenue.

The approach is particularly relevant in a county where many households depend on small-scale agriculture, informal businesses



Nurturing talents has been Tana River Woman Rep’s priority in a bid to empower youth. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Continued from page 18 →

and community-based enterprises.

By providing equipment rather than one-off consumption support, the programme allows groups to build income streams that can continue after the initial intervention.

Business hubs

Women's economic empowerment is a major component of the employment strategy.

In Meticharaka village in Kipini West Ward, the Mijikenda Women's Group received a complete posho mill.

Similar support was extended to a women's group in Bura Anani, while the Mijikenda Women Group in Tarassa also received a complete posho mill. Two women's groups in Gatundu and Shauri Moyo in Kipini East Ward received maize-milling machines.

These machines create opportunities for groups to offer milling services to residents for a fee. The resulting income can support group members and provide funds for maintenance, expansion or other community activities.

The model also creates work around the operation and management of the enterprises. A milling business, for example, requires people to operate the machinery, handle customers, manage finances, procure supplies and maintain the equipment.

Tents and chairs

Another notable employment intervention is the provision of tents, chairs, sufurias and plates to women's groups.

In Galedertu Sub-County, women's groups received seven tents and 700 chairs, together with cooking equipment. Eleven community-based organisations also received Ksh100,000 each to support their projects.

In Kipini West, women in Lailoni received 200 chairs and two tents, while women in Tara received 100 chairs and a tent. A women's group in Kikomo also received tents, 200 chairs, sufurias and plates.



Water pipes and generators donated to various groups in Tana River County by area Woman Rep Amina Dika on August 9, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

The importance of these assets lies in their potential to support a rental business. Groups can hire out tents, chairs and cooking equipment for weddings, funerals, meetings and other social functions.

The programme therefore creates a business model in which community groups own the equipment while earning income from its use.

The source specifically notes that Hamesa and Bandi women's groups received tents and chairs through National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) with the expectation that they would generate income by hiring them out.

This model can also generate indirect employment for people

involved in transporting, erecting and dismantling tents, arranging chairs and providing catering services.

Youth enterprise development

Youth unemployment is one of the key challenges addressed through the physical asset programme.

Amina Dika's office has supplied



Hon Amina Dika delivers a generator and other empowerment equipment to youth groups in the county. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Continued on page 20 →

Continued from page 19 →



Beneficiaries receive sheep donated by Tana River Woman Rep under her empowerment programme on August 9, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

youth groups with car wash machines, water pumps and haircut machines, providing young people with equipment they can use to establish businesses.

The Hamesa Youth Group, for instance, received a car wash machine after requesting the equipment to help generate income for its members.

In Kipini East Ward, two car wash machines were donated to Tokkuma Youth Group and Sauti ya Vijana Kipini. Youth groups in Galedertu also received a water pump and a car wash machine, while haircut machines formed part of the wider equipment distribution programme.

The interventions provide young people with an entry point into service businesses requiring relatively modest operating capital after the initial investment in equipment.

A car wash, for example, can create work for attendants, cleaners, supervisors and people responsible for customer management. A barbering machine similarly provides a self-employment basis, while a water pump can support agricultural or water-related businesses.

Again, the available records do not give a verified employment count for these enterprises. Their significance lies in providing youth groups with the means to start or strengthen income-generating ventures.

Employment through disaster recovery

The employment component of the programme has also been linked to disaster recovery.

Following the El Niño floods, the office worked with the Kenya Red Cross to support women and youth groups with livestock while schools received 120 desks.

For communities whose livelihoods were disrupted by flooding, replacing productive assets is important to restoring economic activity.

Rather than limiting disaster assistance to food and other emergency supplies, the provision of productive assets helps affected groups rebuild their livelihoods after a crisis.

The common thread is the provision of tools that beneficiaries can use repeatedly to earn income.

These projects show that Amina Dika’s employment agenda is primarily focused on enabling self-employment, strengthening community enterprises and supporting productive livelihoods.

The programme does not appear to be centred on large-scale industrial job creation or major construction projects. Instead, it targets the grassroots economy, where relatively small investments in equipment can allow organised groups to establish businesses and provide services.

The strongest employment-

related interventions are the provision of milling machines, car wash equipment, haircut machines, tailoring machines, tents and chairs, irrigation equipment, farming machinery, fishing equipment and livestock.

Promoting employment

The model has two potential advantages. First, beneficiaries receive an asset that can continue generating income after the initial intervention. Second, because many assets are given to groups rather than individuals, the benefits can potentially be shared among several members.

Amina Dika’s development projects aimed at promoting employment in Tana River County are largely built around economic empowerment through productive assets.

The approach has given women and youth groups equipment with which they can establish businesses,

while farmers have received irrigation and agricultural equipment, fishing communities have received livelihood and safety equipment, and community organisations have acquired assets that can be hired out to generate income.

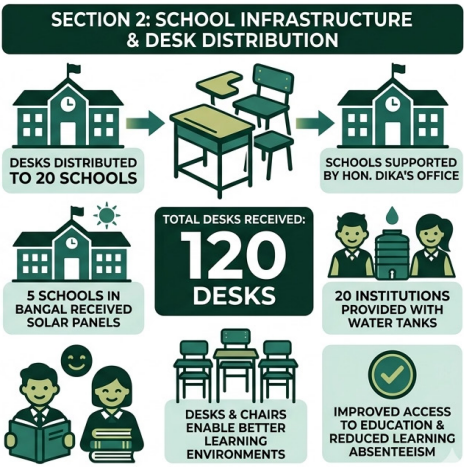
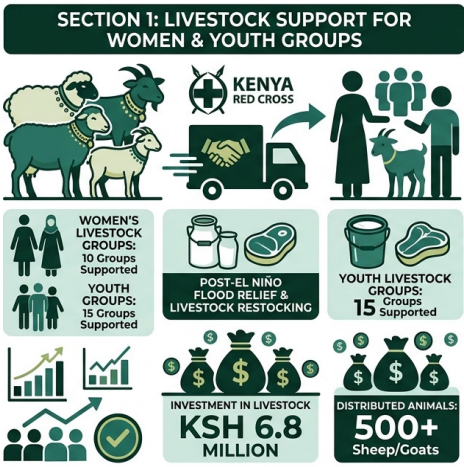
The programme therefore goes beyond conventional financial assistance by seeking to give beneficiaries the means to create continuing sources of income.

For women, the focus has been particularly strong on group enterprises such as milling, tailoring and equipment-hire businesses. For youth, car washes, barbering, farming and other service enterprises have provided potential avenues for self-employment.

Farmers have received equipment to strengthen production, while fishing communities have benefited from tools supporting their livelihoods.

The available evidence does not establish a precise number of jobs created, and such a figure should not be claimed without further records. What can be demonstrated is a sustained effort to create the conditions for employment through community enterprises, self-employment and productive livelihoods.

Amina Dika’s programme represents a grassroots employment model in which public development resources are converted into equipment and assets that communities can use to generate income, strengthen enterprises and improve economic resilience across Tana River County.





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Irrigation unlocks new lifeline for pastoral families in Tana River

Report ID: MB-2026-08-0006-A2 | Milestone Badge

The provision of water pumps and pipes for irrigation has improved the livelihoods of vulnerable households and strengthened food resilience in Tana River County.

The intervention followed the severe drought experienced in the region between 2020 and 2023, which led to the loss of the entire livestock of pastoralists. The

drought forced residents to turn to crop farming to replenish their food basket. The county has, more than ever, endured some of the most extreme weather patterns, spanning prolonged drought and recurrent flooding.

For years, the region and its communities have been forced to contend with the growing pressures of climate change. Further, the communities have long relied on local indigenous knowledge to anticipate rainfall and drought as a

means of survival.

But some communities are now relieved following crucial interventions established by local leaders to redefine the socio-economic welfare of the communities.

In June 2023, Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika provided mechanical devices to farmers in 15 villages afflicted by drought. MP Dika rolled out the project as an emergency climate response intervention. The project was not a groundwater well-drilling project but rather a river-diversion and pump-fed irrigation infrastructure rollout.

Hon. Dika, alongside Tana River County Assembly Speaker Osman Galole, held a formal distribution and implementation summit in Mandigo Village to officially activate

the project. They supplied the villages with water pumps, pipes and farming seeds for the farmers.

The project was funded through the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF). MP Dika utilised the funds to procure and supply industrial-grade motorised water pumps, transport/discharge piping systems and fuel support directly to communal farm clusters.

The Ministry of Agriculture co-founded the operational rollout by absorbing the cost of supplying diverse, drought-resistant seeds. The project continues to operate as an ongoing initiative. It matches continuous seasonal crop cultivation with agricultural support provided by county extension officers.

The project has had an impact



A local farmer at Shantama farm tilling her portion. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

 Continued from page 22 →


Tana River County residents farming on Shantama farm receive donation of water bumps, pipes and seeds from area Woman Rep Amina Dika on June 24, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

by opening vast tracts of land for consistent cultivation. In the Shantama farm area in Tana Delta, a remote part of the county, residents have turned to tilling the land. Some residents ditched pastoralism for crop farming three years ago following a severe drought that wiped out hundreds of heads of cattle and other animals.

In Shantama farm alone, the project unlocked the potential of more than 3,000 acres of highly fertile delta soil for active farming. More importantly, it successfully transitioned former pastoralists who lost 100% of their herds to climate shocks into permanent, self-sustaining crop farmers.

Through the intervention, the economic base of the beneficiaries shifted towards harvesting cash crops such as maize, cowpeas and beans. The installation of motorised river-water delivery mechanisms secured year-round food production, neutralising crop failure risks arising from shifting weather cycles.

The move has been a boon for the locals, helping them combat climate change through anticipatory action plans and giving the residents an edge owing to the huge tracts of land that can be used. MP Dika called on the national government and donors implementing climate change projects to support the residents with resources.

Some of the hurdles they face include the inaccessibility of the area due to poor road networks, unreliable rainfall patterns, high

poverty levels and steep transport costs when ferrying produce to markets, especially when it rains. They also have to till the land manually since they lack modern farming equipment.

The project spearheaded by MP Dika complements other major irrigation interventions implemented in the county, key among them the Tana Irrigation Scheme and the Tana Delta Irrigation Project (TDIP), which support green grams, cotton, rice, watermelon and onions.

The Tana Irrigation Scheme, which was established in 1953, is the oldest of the seven public irrigation schemes in Kenya managed by the National Irrigation Authority (NIA).

A few years later, the scheme collapsed in 1989 when the Tana River changed its course. It was later revived in 2009. The Government of Kenya and the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) sponsored the rehabilitation of the scheme, whose gazetted area is 12,639 acres.

The type of irrigation carried out involves abstracting water through pumping, conveying and distributing it through open earth canals, and applying it through a furrow irrigation system.

However, 5,000 acres are in use, advancing the lives of about 1,450 farming families. About 6,000 people depend on the scheme for their livelihoods as the NIA works to ensure that farmers receive enough water for irrigation.

The agency maintains the water pumping station and canals and constructs water reservoirs. Households have incrementally adopted crop diversification in the irrigation scheme with the aim of solving persistent problems such as limited access to markets, credit and financing, and a lack of education and technical skills.

The Tana Delta Irrigation Project (TDIP), on the other hand, measures 31,000 ha, spanning Tana River and Lamu counties and supporting rice and sugar production. The Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority (TARDA) manages the project.

So far, the projects have borne a barrage of benefits for the locals, ranging from food security and the creation of direct and indirect employment opportunities for 50,000 people to supporting trade within and outside the devolved unit, acting as a source of food and raw materials for farming

households, and bolstering the local economy and the social welfare of the people.

The projects have also helped to ease tensions and prevent conflicts between farmers and pastoralists by providing water for livestock in the irrigation canals. This averts livestock from accessing water from the river, where farmers conduct their farming activities. The move subsequently promotes peaceful co-existence between the two groups of residents.

In addition to settling landless members of society, the schemes have steadied the price of rice in markets around the project areas, helped bridge the supply shortfall of white rice, saved the country foreign exchange, and restored water supply for domestic use and livestock production to eight villages comprising 1,662 households with a population of 8,600 people.



Hon Amina Dika walks through the Shantama farm with local farmers while on a tour of the facility on June 24, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



Crops at the Shantama farm with input from Woman Rep Amina Dika. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Tana River education equity realised through Amina Dika bursary disbursements to vulnerable learners

Report ID: MB-2026-08-0007-A2 |
Milestone Badge

With the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) anchored on improving human capital development through practical skills training and technical competence, access to basic education therefore becomes an effective catalyst in achieving the targeted transformation.

On this front, Tana River County Woman Representative Amina Dika has been on the frontline by awarding bursaries to vulnerable learners to enable them to learn without financial disruptions.

In May 2026, Dika disbursed cheques worth Ksh7.1 million for the education bursary through the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) to support vulnerable students in secondary schools.

In April 2023, Hon Dika disbursed Ksh1.9 million under the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) to more than 200 secondary school students in Bura constituency.

The funds catered for tuition costs for over 100 students studying within the county and over

100 enrolled in schools outside the county. The development targeted vulnerable students, such as orphans and girls, especially those facing female genital mutilation challenges.

Bursaries offered under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), especially through NGAAF, provide essential financial assistance to learners from poor, vulnerable and marginalized households. The support helps families meet school-related costs, reducing the financial strain that often prevents children from attending school consistently or completing their education.

The National Government Affirmative Action Fund is a government-supported programme implemented through women representatives. Its main purpose is to promote social and economic development among women, youth and persons with disabilities in different parts of Kenya.

By directing resources to local communities, NGAAF responds to challenges that affect disadvantaged groups at the grassroots level. Besides education, the fund finances several types of community projects. These include initiatives aimed at improving household incomes, supporting



Students of Huruma Secondary School entertain guests during an event attended by Tana River Woman Rep Amina Dika on April 1, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

healthcare services and assisting vulnerable people with shelter.

Through these interventions, NGAAF seeks to improve living conditions and expand opportunities for groups that are often excluded from mainstream development programmes. Since it was introduced in 2015, NGAAF has awarded bursaries to more than 217,000 students experiencing financial hardship.

For many of these learners, especially those in Tana River County, the assistance has made it possible to remain in school even when their families could not afford the full cost of education. The cost of schooling can be overwhelming for families with little or no regular income.

Consequently, bursaries help reduce this burden by contributing towards fees and other essential requirements. As a result, students are less likely to leave school because their parents or guardians are unable to meet education expenses. The assistance therefore plays an important role in limiting poverty-related dropout.

In Tana River County, support has focused partly on day schools and boarding facilities serving learners in remote areas. This strategy is intended to make secondary education more accessible and improve the movement of pupils

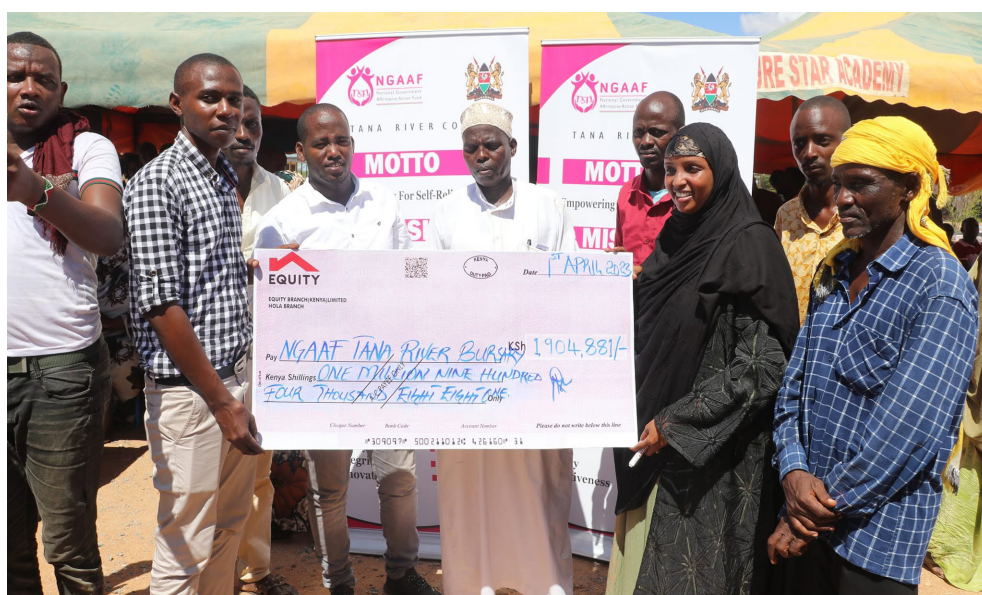
from primary to secondary school.

Spearheaded by Hon Dika, the fund has also helped address some of the difficulties that cause girls to leave school. When bursary assistance is combined with menstrual hygiene supplies, it can reduce both the financial barriers to schooling and the effects of period poverty.

Bursary support continues to be an important way of expanding access to secondary education for disadvantaged learners in Tana River County.

Nationally, the Ministry of Education supports programmes that assist students whose families struggle to pay school fees and meet other education-related expenses. Such assistance is particularly important in communities where household incomes are low and educational costs are difficult to manage.

Although the government's 100 per cent transition policy seeks to ensure that all learners proceed from primary to secondary school, financial challenges still affect many families. Expenses such as transport, uniforms, textbooks, meals and other learning materials can be just as difficult to meet as school fees. For this reason, bursaries remain necessary in



Hon Amina Dika hand over a dummy cheque while issuing bursaries at Huruma Secondary School in Bura, Tana River County on April 1, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Continued from page 24 →

helping needy students enrol, attend school regularly and complete their studies.

Learning centres

Hon Dika has also made contributions towards advocating for inclusivity for disadvantaged learners in Tana River by highlighting the strenuous circumstances they have to face to access learning and assessment facilities in the region.

In March 2023, Hon Dika took up an issue that directly affected the education and wellbeing of learners in the county. She raised concerns about schools that had not been approved as centres for national examinations, leaving students to travel long distances to sit papers that should have been accessible within their own communities. For some families, this also meant finding temporary accommodation and meeting additional transport and living costs during the examination period.

Dika's intervention reflected her broader commitment to making education more accessible for children in remote and underserved parts of Tana River. She urged the Ministry of Education to consider approving suitable registered schools in the county as examination centres.

To achieve their optimum potentials, learners should not be disadvantaged simply because

they attend schools with small enrolments or live far from administrative centres.

The pivotal role of bursaries has been demonstrated through helping families pay school fees. Bursaries could not solve the separate challenge of distance and the emotional and financial strain associated with travelling for examinations.

With this potential in mind, Dika, in her capacity as the region's Woman Representative, formally presented the issue to Parliament through Question No. 053/2023, addressed to the Cabinet Secretary for Education.

By bringing the issue to the national level, she gave visibility to the experiences of students and parents who had struggled with an examination system that did not adequately reflect the county's geographical realities.

The intervention focused on the practical difficulties facing learners. The arguments centred on why registered primary and secondary schools with fewer than 30 candidates were not being considered for approval as national examination centres.

Information was also sought on what the Ministry was doing to support students and parents who had to travel long distances or arrange accommodation near approved centres. In addition, she asked whether candidates



 **MILESTONE BADGE**

Hon. Amina Dika has been on the frontline by awarding bursaries to vulnerable learners in Tana River to enable them to learn without financial disruptions.

In May 2026, she disbursed cheques worth Ksh7.1 million to support vulnerable students in secondary schools.

could be allowed to sit their examinations in the schools where they were enrolled, provided those institutions met the necessary requirements.

The experience of learners at Koticha Primary School demonstrated why the matter was considered urgent. Fourteen candidates from the school had to travel more than 50 kilometres to Hola because their own

school was not authorised to host the examinations. For the students, this was more than an inconvenience. It meant leaving familiar surroundings, spending additional money and coping with the anxiety of travelling to an unfamiliar location at an important stage of their education.

By highlighting their situation, Dika drew attention to the human consequences of policies that may appear reasonable on paper but create serious barriers for children in remote communities. Other learners in Tana River faced similar difficulties. Nine candidates travelled approximately 135 kilometres after being assigned to examination centres far from their homes.

Dika's advocacy brought these experiences into the public conversation and challenged education authorities to consider the needs of learners who are often overlooked because of their small numbers or remote location.

Although the problem was acknowledged as genuine and longstanding. The matter was presented as an education and equity concern, given that that every learner should have a fair opportunity to sit national examinations without being placed under unnecessary financial, physical or emotional pressure.



Students of Huruma Secondary School during an event attended by Tana River Woman Rep Amina Dika on April 1, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Through sports, Amina Dika empowers and uplifts Youth, PWDs



On October 9, 2023 Tana River Woman Rep donated 50 desks to Kipao Primary School to improve learning environment for deserving pupils. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Hon Amina Dika displays a dummy Ksh3.2 million cheque during bursary disbursement in favour of learning institutions in Bura constituency on July 9, 2024. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Report ID: MB-2026-08-0008-A2 | Milestone Badge

For many young people in Kipini, Tana River County, a football jersey is more than sportswear. It can represent belonging, confidence and the chance to take part in organized competition.

But during a community empowerment event in April 2024, the jerseys and sports kits handed to local groups came with a broader message. Alongside the sporting equipment were fishing gear, posho mills, car-washing machines, tents, chairs and wheelchairs — items intended to support both recreation and livelihoods.

Courtesy of Tana River Woman Representative Amina Dika, the social occasion brought together youth groups, persons with disabilities and community organizations to link sports development with economic empowerment. The event took place in Kipini, Garsen

Constituency, where many young people depend on informal work and small-scale economic activities for survival. In such communities, access to equipment can determine whether a group remains an informal association or develops into a functioning enterprise.

The beneficiaries were urged to use the equipment responsibly and turn it into an opportunity to improve their lives. For the youth, the car-washing machines provided the foundation for establishing business. Fishing gear helped low-income households to strengthen their source of income, while posho mills provided other residents with opportunities to generate revenue.

The tents and chairs provided comfort to the residents and reduce expenses incurred during events and meetings. For the PWDs, the wheelchairs improved their mobility and independence. the project enhanced communal growth and interaction.

The effort was important in an area where formal employment opportunities remain limited. Sport can provide discipline, teamwork and a sense of purpose; but it cannot by itself meet the daily economic needs of young people. By pairing sports kits with income-generating equipment, the intervention sought to create a broader support system.

The programme also placed particular emphasis on persons with disabilities. Special Olympics Kenya participated in the initiative, bringing attention to the needs of people with intellectual disabilities. The organization supports athletes with intellectual disabilities through sports and related programmes.

The sports sector aims to improve the quality of life of all Kenyans by accelerating human capital development and social welfare.

To achieve Inclusive Growth under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda, the social pillar aims at investing in the people of Kenya and building a just and cohesive society that enjoys equitable socio-economic development in a clean and secure environment.

It comprises of the following sectors: Health; Population, Housing and Urbanization; Education and Training; Environment, Water, Sanitation and Regional Development; Gender, Youth and Vulnerable Groups; and Sports, Culture and Arts.

The Special Olympics Kenya pledged to work with the Hon Dika to develop ways of including persons with intellectual disabilities in development programmes across the devolved unit. Persons with disabilities have different needs, and a Programme designed for the general population may not automatically reach those with intellectual or physical challenges.

Meaningful inclusion requires

deliberate planning, accessible services and partnerships with organizations that understand the realities faced by persons with disabilities and their families. The disability component gave the Kipini initiative a wider meaning.

It was not only about youth employment or sports; it was also about participation, dignity and ensuring that people who are frequently excluded from mainstream programmes are recognized in development planning. Building on an earlier sports Programme. The sports component of the 2024 initiative followed an earlier intervention.

For one young person in Kipini, empowerment may begin with a football jersey. For another, it may start with fishing gear or access to a car-washing enterprise. For a person with a disability, it may begin with a wheelchair that makes movement easier and restores a measure of independence. Each item represents a different form of opportunity.

Hon Dika's initiative brought these opportunities together under one Programme. Its significance therefore goes beyond the list of items handed over. It reflects an attempt to recognise that young people need more than entertainment and that persons with disabilities need more than promises of inclusion. They need practical support, access to services and opportunities that can help them participate fully in community life.

The Programme also recognized that grassroots groups can become important vehicles for development when they are properly organized and supported.

In 2023, a tournament was organised in the county sponsored by NGAAF. Young people were given an opportunity to compete and interact through sport. Tournaments also create social spaces. Young people meet, train and compete instead of spending their free time without structured activities.

Sports can help build friendships and discipline while allowing talented players to be noticed. The initiative created what can be described as a dual pathway. Young people could train and compete as teams while also participating in businesses supported by the equipment distributed to their groups.



Pupils at Kenyatta Primary School in Ballo are all smiles after receiving a donation of 50 desks and 50 chairs from Tana River Woman Rep Amina Dika on September 16, 2023.. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



School community and pupils of Lailoni Primary School receive a donation of desks and cooking pots from area Woman Rep Amina Dika on September 15, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.

Amina Dika’s parliamentary questions and statements



Report ID: MB-2026-08-0009-LA1 | Milestone Badge

There are three key parliamentary interventions by Hon Amina Dika which address critical issues affecting Tana River County residents: the disappearance of a resident, storm water harvesting for climate resilience, and equitable access to national examination centres.

Each intervention reflects the MP’s oversight role under Standing Order 44(2)(c) of the National Assembly, seeking ministerial accountability and actionable solutions.

1. Disappearance of Mr Abdullahi Ahmed Mohamed (April 3, 2025)

Question:

What steps have security agencies taken to address the disappearance of Mr. Abdullahi Ahmed Mohamed (ID No. 42848612), abducted in Garsen on October 5, 2024?

Fact:

Mr. Abdullahi, a 73-year-old resident of Ngumu Village with hypertension, was forcibly bundled into a Toyota Hilux (KCU 576U) at around 2p.m. and has remained missing.

The family reported the incident at Garsen Police Station (OB/2/05/10/2024) but has received no updates, causing severe emotional distress.

Demand:

Hon Dika sought a statement from

the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Affairs on:

- Investigative steps taken by security agencies.
- Current status of efforts to locate Mr. Abdullahi and reunite him with his family.

This case uncovers systemic gaps in missing persons’ protocols and inter-agency communication and response over such incidents.

The lack of feedback after all this period erodes public trust in law enforcement responsiveness.

2. Harvesting of Storm Water in Tana River County (May 2, 2024)

Question:

What strategies does the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation have to harness heavy rains for drought mitigation, and what support exists for flood-affected communities?

Fact:

Tana River County faces cyclical flooding and droughts, devastating agriculture and displacing residents.

Floods experienced in 2024 submerged crops, rendered roads

impassable, and increased boat-related accidents in areas such as Bura Constituency.

Demand:

Hon Dika requested a statement from the Committee on Blue Economy, Water and Irrigation on:

- National strategies for storm water harvesting to ensure year-round agricultural water access.
- Support mechanisms for communities during/after floods.
- Measures to mitigate dam overflows contributing to downstream flooding.

County plans (2023–2027) prioritize rainwater harvesting, dam construction, and flood-proof infrastructure. The Tana River County Water and Sewerage Services Act (2024/2025) mandates rain barrels, storm water management plans, and public awareness campaigns.

Aligning national policy with county-level implementation is critical to transforming flood risks into water security opportunities, and this is what Hon Dika seeks.

3. National Examination Centres in Tana River County (March 21, 2023)

Question:

Why are schools with fewer than 30 candidates excluded as national examination centres despite being

registered, and what measures address commuting burdens on students and parents?

Fact:

Registered primary and secondary schools in Tana River County with under 30 candidates are denied designation as examination centres, forcing students to travel long distances or seek temporary accommodation.

Demand:

Hon Dika asked the Cabinet Secretary for Education to:

- Explain the rationale for the 30-candidate threshold.
- Outline measures to reduce logistical and financial burdens on families.
- Consider permitting all registered schools to host examinations.

The policy disproportionately affects arid and semi-arid regions like Tana River, where infrastructure deficits amplify access barriers. Reform could enhance equity in national assessments.

Hon Dika’s interventions highlight three persistent challenges in Tana River County of security accountability, climate adaptation, and educational equity.

Each question demands intergovernmental coordination (national ministries, county authorities, and security agencies) to translate parliamentary oversight into tangible outcomes for constituents.

Hon Dika’s sustained follow-up on these statements is essential to ensure responsive governance and mitigate systemic vulnerabilities in the region.



Hon Amina Dika attends parliamentary session during the reading of National Budget 2023/2024 by then Treasury CS Prof. Njuguna Ndung’u on June 15, 2023. PHOTO | Hon. Amina Dika.



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