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Ecoflash

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National Environment Management Authority

E-WASTE MANAGEMENT IN AFRICA



INSIDE

NATIONAL TREE GROWING CAMPAIGN



The 'Adopt a wetland' initiative to restore wetlands towards enhanced tree growing campaign

Five African countries - Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Ghana and Senegal are working together under the African Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project to address issues of e-waste in Africa funded by the World Bank.



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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

CITIZEN SERVICE DELIVERY CHARTER

No.	SERVICES OFFERED	USER OBLIGATION	USER CHARGES	TIME FRAME	
1.	Response to Complaints/Enquiries	Use of appropriate channels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer feedback form Suggestion boxes Social media net works 	Free	Immediately, 5 days	
2.	Procurement of Goods and Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purchase of prequalification/ Tender Documents. Compliance with the Procurement and Disposal Act and Regulations. 	Kshs. 1000. Free download	Within 4 weeks	
3.	Payment to Suppliers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attach supporting documents 	Free	30 days	
4.	Registration and Licensing of Environmental Experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adhere to code of practice and professional ethics Provision of accurate information Prompt response to issues raised 	Application for registration Citizens Lead -Kshs.3,000. Associate - Kshs. 2,000. Firm- Ksh.5,000. Non-Citizens Lead - kshs.9,000. Associate- kshs. 6,000. Firm- Kshs.15,000. Application for practicing license Citizens Lead - Ksh.5,000 Associate - Kshs.3,000 Firm - Ksh. 20,000. Non-Citizens Lead - Ksh.15,000. Associate - Ksh. 9,000 Firm- Ksh.60,000.	30 days upon application	
5.	Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay prescribed EIA fees Application of EIA license with relevant documentation Visit: www.nema.go.ke Apply at least 3 months before 	EIA Fees as per the fifth schedule of EMCA, 1999 (Calculated as 0.1% of the total project cost with a minimum of Kshs. 10,000 and no upper capping) Ksh 5,000. for surrender, transfer and Variation of an EIA licence	SPR - within 5 days CPR - within 30 days SR - within 3 months	
6.	Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit all relevant as per the National SEA guidelines 	Ksh- 1,000,000.	Within 180 days	
7.	Environmental Auditing (EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely submission of annual EA reports. Compliance with improvement notices/ restoration orders. 	No Charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of EA reports upon submission 	
8.	The Environmental Management and Co-Ordination (Conservation of Biological Diversity and Resources, Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing) Regulations, 2016	Access Permit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pay prescribed fees Application with relevant documentation Visit: www.nema.go.ke 	Individual Ksh.- 20,000. Corporate Ksh:- 50,000. Renewal: Individual Ksh. - Ksh. 10,000. Corporate Ksh. 25,000.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within 30 days from the date of application 	
9.	The Environmental Management and Coordination (Water Quality) Regulations, 2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fill in application Form A Provide information on site layout and effluent analysis report from a NEMA designated lab. Payment of prescribed fee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application fee for all facilities - Ksh.5,000. Listed facilities under 11th schedule ranges between Ksh10,000 – Ksh. 500,000. Variation of effluent discharge license, 10% of the annual license fee 	Within 21 days	
10.	The Environmental Management and Coordination (Air Quality) Regulations 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit dully filled application form for all facilities & equipment under schedule 3 Submit stack emission measurement report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application fee for all facilities - Ksh.5,000. Emission Licence fee for all facilities - Ksh.20,000 – Ksh. 50,000. As per the 13th schedule 	Within 30 days	
11.	The Environmental Management and Coordination (Waste Management) Regulations, 2006.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fill in relevant application form or apply online, through NEMA licensing portal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application fees - Ksh 3,000. 	Annual License fees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport-Ksh. 5,000 per vehicle Recycle/compost-Ksh.40,000, Waste disposal for incinerators/ landfills-Ksh 75,000. 	Within 30 days
	Export/Transit Permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply and attach all required documents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Application fee - Ksh. 3,000. License fee - Ksh. 30,000. 	Within 60 days	
12.	The Environmental Management and Co-Ordination (Controlled Substances) Regulations, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Timely application Provide accurate information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Licence to produce controlled substances ksh.15,000. Application to export controlled substance ksh.15,000. License to import controlled substance ksh.15,000.00. Permit to import or export a controlled substance ksh.1,500. Deposit bond - 15% of cost, insurance and freight value (CIF) (refundable) 	Within 45 days	
	Analytical Reference Laboratories.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for designation prior to commencement of the activity Submit dully filled laboratory application form 	No charges	Within 60 days	
13.	The Environmental Management and Co-Ordination (Noise and Excessive Vibration Pollution (Control) Regulations, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit declaration form and attach all relevant documentation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Permit Application (Excessive vibration) - Kshs. 500. Permit fee - Ksh. 5000. 	Within 2 days Permit valid for 3 months.	
14.	Environment Incident Management	Report Incidents through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 0786 - 101 100 0741 - 101 100 incidence@nema.go.ke 	No charges	Response to environmental incidents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High-risk - 24 Hrs. Medium risk - 48 hrs. Low risk -14 days. 	
15.	Environmental Inspection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for official identification Provide information to inspectors Treat inspectors with courtesy 	No charges	Regular inspections	
16.	Environmental Reporting Production and Dissemination of; SOE, NAP, NEAP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Download a copy from NEMA website 	No charges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SOE report every 2 yrs. NAP report - every 10 yrs. NEAPS - 6 yrs. 	
17.	Environmental Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for available information Adherence to partnership obligations 	No charges	Educational materials availed immediately	
18.	Development of Curriculum for Training of SEA, Environmental Impact Assessment /Audit Experts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apply for authorization to train EIA/EA curriculum Evidence of registration by Ministry of Education and NITA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ksh. 20,000 per copy of curriculum and annually as subscription fee Ksh 40,000 per copy of the SEA Curriculum Tuition fee chargeable by acknowledged Institution. 	3 weeks by acknowledged Institutions	

Feedback Mechanism

We encourage our customers to give feedback on services rendered to enable us improve the quality of our service delivery. If not satisfied, you can:

- Fill our customer feedback forms at the our offices.
- Call our incident reporting line no. 0786-101100, 0741-101100
- Visiting our offices.
- Make a complaint to the Director General by post, or email dgnema@nema.go.ke / incidence@nema.go.ke

In cases where you feel your complaint was not handled satisfactory, redress may be sought through an independent review including National Environment Complaints Committee, National Environment Tribunal (NET), Environment and Land Court (ELC) and Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ).



Editorial

Adopt a wetland, plant trees!

This quarter was a blessing in disguise as there were abundant rains that offered a good opportunity to plant and grow trees towards the government's target of 15 billion trees by 2032.

During the period, NEMA in collaboration with County Directors of Environment (CDEs), County Environment Committees (CECs), and County Commissioners identified crucial wetlands in all 47 Counties for restoration efforts. As part of this initiative, the National Tree Growing Day took place at Kiu Wetland in Makueni County presided over by the President.

To cascade the tree planting campaign further, the Authority established the 'Adopt a wetland' initiative across the Counties. This was a proactive to safeguard wetlands and their surroundings. The initiative aims to boost wetlands restoration and conservation by appointing dedicated leaders as champions for wetlands preservation. This collaborative effort between NEMA and other State Departments under the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry is a significant stride toward achieving a sustainable future, kick starting the National Landscapes and Ecosystem Restoration Campaign. The launch was undertaken at Dikdik wetland in Nairobi County.

NEMA continued to implement the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) that aims at making producers responsible for their waste into the environment to encourage a circular economy. According to Section 13 of the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Act, producers must adhere to extended producer obligations. This entails actively reducing pollution and environmental impacts associated with their products introduced into the Kenyan market and the resulting waste. The legislation mandates that producers fulfill their EPR responsibilities either independently or through participation in a compliance scheme. This signifies a significant shift, requiring producers to take ownership of the environmental impact of their products throughout the entire life cycle.

The African Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project, a five-year initiative funded by the Global Environment Facility under its sixth framework brought together five African Countries; Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Ghana, and Senegal to the first conference on management and regulating of e-waste and related Unintended Persistent Organic Pollutants (UPOPS) held in Mombasa. The meeting brought together experts on ewaste to come with strategies on how to harness experiences from other countries in the continent as well as work together to deal with the e-waste menace.

The third session of the Inter-Governmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on ending plastic pollution also took place in Nairobi at the United Nations offices. Following previous meetings in Uruguay and France, this session was focused on expediting the process of addressing plastic pollution and aims to conclude negotiations next year, paving the way for the treaty's adoption by mid-2025.

NEMA remains steadfast in its commitment to fostering a clean and healthy environment for the well-being of all Kenyans.

Enjoy the read!

Evans Nyabuto,

Deputy Director, Corporate Communication

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EPR to re-engineer Kenya into a circular economy

|| BY S. IRUNGU & D. KIRIMI

“

EPR holds the promise to advance circular economy bringing in the much needed responsibility-financial and organizational that will enable the ‘closing loop’ in material and product value.

Mamo B. Mamo, EBS
Director General, NEMA



Kenya pronounced itself loudly on its transition from linear to circular economy through the Sustainable Waste Management (SWM) Policy (2021) and SWM Act 2022 which became operational on 23rd July 2023. One of the gains in the SWM Act is expansion of the scope of the waste generators to include producers.

Section 13 of the SWM Act states that “Every producer shall bear extended producer (EPR) obligations to reduce pollution and environmental impacts of the products they introduce into the Kenyan market and waste arising therefrom.

Every producer shall fulfill their extended producer responsibility obligations individually or collectively in a compliance scheme.”

EPR is a policy approach based on the Polluter-Pays Principle in which producers are given significant responsibility – financial, organizational, and/or physical – for the product design, collection, treatment, and disposal of the waste from the products they introduce in the market.

According to the SWM Act 2022 EPR is defined as an “environmental management approach in which a producer’s responsibility for a product is extended to the post-consumer stage of a product life cycle”.

Further, a producer is defined as “an entity that introduces goods, products, and packaging into the country using authorized means by manufacturing, importing, converting, filling, refilling, repackaging or rebranding. In this regard, the Producers are obligated just like other waste generators to ensure that their products and associated waste are appropriately managed.

Producers are now required to take responsibility for the environmental impacts of their products throughout their entire life cycle. Kenya introduced EPR in their waste management rules with an objective to achieve a circular economy, improve materials security, and increase competitiveness. Generally, it is being used as a strategy to engage stakeholders.



Panelists at the Private Sector Forum on Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): A catalyst to circular economy transition in Kenya at the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) offices in Nairobi.

The EPR aims to incentivize producers to design more resource efficient products with lower environmental impacts, and to ensure effective end-of-life collection and environmentally sound treatment of collected waste products. It can be implemented through several types of instruments namely;

- **Product take-back requirements, whereby producers are required to take back their products from consumers when they become waste and made responsible for their end-of-life management.**
- **Economic and market-based instrument, for instance, consumers can pay a deposit when they purchase an item, which is refunded when they return the waste item (Deposit Refund Scheme).**
- **Regulations and performance standards, such as requirements for minimum recycled content.**
- **Information-based instruments; providing information to consumers and/or producers to support the implementation of the regulations.**

If well-designed and implemented, EPR can provide significant environmental, economic and social benefits. These include;

1. Reduction in the extraction of virgin resources. EPR programs contribute to a notable reduction in the extraction of virgin resources. This is achieved by encouraging manufacturers to use recycled materials, which in turn decreases the demand for new raw materials. By promoting the recycling and reuse of products and materials, EPR helps conserve natural resources and minimizes the environmental impact associated with resource extraction. Additionally, reduced reliance on virgin resources can lead to a decrease in habitat destruction and the preservation of biodiversity.

2. Improvement in waste management and resource recovery. Manufacturers become more responsible for the entire lifecycle of their products, including their end-of-life management. This often leads to the development of efficient collection, recycling, and disposal systems. Consequently, there is a decrease in the amount of waste that ends up in landfills or incinerators. The recovery and recycling of valuable materials from discarded products not only reduce waste but also conserve energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste disposal.

3. Reduced financial burden on public sector.

EPR programs alleviate the financial burden on the public sector in terms of waste management and environmental protection. By shifting the responsibility for the management of post-consumer products and packaging back to manufacturers, the costs of collection, recycling, and disposal are no longer solely borne by taxpayers and local governments. EPR promotes cost-sharing, allowing the private sector to contribute to the costs associated with managing their products, thus freeing up public funds for other essential services and infrastructure development.

4. Innovation and design for environment. It encourages innovation and promotes the concept of “Design for Environment.” Manufacturers are motivated to create products with a reduced environmental footprint, such as products that are easier to disassemble, repair, or recycle. This stimulates product innovation and the adoption of environmentally friendly design principles. As a result, EPR fosters a culture of sustainable and eco-friendly product development, leading to a market shift towards more environmentally responsible goods.

5. Promotion of eco-entrepreneurship and business models. EPR promotes the development of eco-entrepreneurship and sustainable business models. It creates opportunities for businesses to specialize in recycling, remanufacturing, and refurbishing activities. Entrepreneurs can establish ventures that focus on collecting, refurbishing, or recycling products and materials, ultimately contributing to the growth of a green economy.



NEMA DG, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS (R) receives a gift package from WWF Kenya staff at their offices during the forum

Additionally, businesses that adopt EPR principles are often viewed favorably by environmentally conscious consumers, potentially leading to increased market share and brand loyalty. “We also need CR (Citizen Responsibility) to stop the throw away culture by most citizens. EPR holds the promise to advance circular economy bringing in the much-needed responsibility on the part of producers to safeguard the environment,” said NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo as he joined stakeholders from the private sector, leaders and representatives from academia and government for a Private Sector Forum on: Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR): A catalyst to circular economy transition in Kenya at the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) offices in Nairobi.

On implementation of EPR whose timeline for submission of EPR compliance plans lapsed on 30th October 2023, the DG stated that the Authority would sit down with the various teams to implement negotiated compliance and develop compliance plans as well as sensitize citizens and enhance responsibility on the part of producers.

“We will continue with sensitization on EPR-and we call this the carrot before we use the stick-which is the last resort-enforcement,” he said. He also mentioned that by close of deadline for submissions, the Authority had received a lot of information from producers.

To implement EPR, NEMA intends to establish a multi-agency team drawn from diverse institutions both public and private. The institutions are expected to help NEMA collaborate and triangulate producer databases.

It is important to note that even in absence of legislation, Kenya has been running two voluntary EPR schemes since 2019 and have recorded high levels of success. The two schemes are PETCO and KEPRO dealing with PET plastics and LDPE bread packaging respectively. Thousands of tonnes of valuables have been recovered from waste and hence diverted from the dumpsites. Hence, producers have no excuse that they are waiting for enactment of EPR regulations before they can comply with the SWM Act 2022.

With the SWM Act 2022 section 13 in place, it is expected that producers would put in place mechanisms individually or collectively to manage the waste emanating from their products and packaging as a matter of urgency to demonstrate compliance to the law. Nothing prevents them from establishing new

or joining the existing EPR schemes that have been running since 2019. Hence, the prevailing business as usual scenario is a demonstration of impunity to the rights of Kenyans to a clean and healthy environment.

Since waste is a devolved function to counties, action should be taken to demand compliance with Section 13 of the SWM Act 2022. Since July 2022, the producers should have established individual EPR schemes as they wait for the regulation, since the extended producer responsibility is for each individual entity. Now it appears that most producers are just waiting for the regulation and doing nothing which is non compliance to the law, whose basic penalty is withdrawal of related products from the shelves.

Non-compliance to SWM Act 2022 Section 13 is denying Kenyans the right to a clean and healthy environment since these products are dumped daily and nobody is showing responsibility. Jobs and employment especially for those offering collection services such as waste pickers and other waste service providers.

At the moment only paper, plastics, and metal is being collected as they are the only ones considered valuable since there is demand for them for recycling. The other products are left to pollute the environment as there are no incentives to enhance their collection. EPR would have made every product valuable and deserving compensation for collection service and this would have created jobs and livelihoods for thousands of Kenyans.

Declined growth of the recycling sector since there are very many products and packaging that are considered unworthy and hence not collected. EPR will ensure availability of huge volumes of products and packaging for the recycling sector, and this will attract more recycling facilities, hence jobs and economic growth.

Continued existence of dumpsites, and resultant GHG emissions. Compliance with EPR law will divert huge volumes of waste from dumpsites through recovery of valuables.

Producers should therefore take up their EPR responsibilities immediately without further delay as required by SWM Act 2022 section 13. The upcoming regulations would only serve to streamline their operations and should not be used as an excuse to delay taking up EPR obligations by the producers.



Spouse of the Deputy President, H.E Pst. Dr. Dorcas Rigathi joins NEMA Board, Director General to plant a tree at Kiu wetland, Makueni County during the National Tree Growing Day.

|| BY S. IRUNGU

The National Tree Growing Day

“

Taking advantage of the short rains, we will launch an accelerated campaign towards growing 15 Billion trees by 2032. We aim to grow at least 100 Million seedlings on this day, across the Country. The national target for the short rains season is 500 Million seedlings.

Hon. Soipan Tuyu, CBS
CS Environment, Climate Change and Forestry

The National tree growing day was held on Monday, 13th November, 2023 at Kiu Wetland in Makueni County and in the 47 Counties countrywide.

The exercise that kicked off countrywide is a government initiative in hope of planting 15 billion trees by 2032 to tackle climate change crisis and deforestation amid worsening impacts such as severe drought in the country and the wider Horn of Africa region. The event was officiated by H.E President Dr. William Ruto, E.G.H on Monday, 13th November, 2023.

The Government of Kenya led by His Excellency President committed to increase the country's tree cover to over 30% by the year 2032 by growing 15 Billion trees as a way of mitigating the adverse effects of climate change

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) through its County Directors of Environment worked closely with County Environment Committees and County Commissioners and indentified critical wetlands in the 47 Counties for restoration activities. The Authority also mobilized stakeholders in other Counties countrywide to participate in tree growing activities.

As part of the 15bn national tree growing programme, the Ministry is implementing a comprehensive wetlands restoration strategy that will see the Ministry, through NEMA, identify and gazette wetlands and key water catchments across the country. The National Wetlands Restoration Strategy has mapped out critical wetlands across the country to be rehabilitated and restored as a progress towards growing of 15 billion Trees by 2032.

In line with the National Wetlands Restoration Strategy, NEMA in collaboration with the Makueni County Government has identified five wetlands which are earmarked for gazettement including Kiu wetland.

According to the CS Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Hon. Soipan Tuya CBS, the Ministry has identified wetlands as having very high potential for ecosystem restoration including tree growing and support for livelihoods because of the all-year availability of water.

Countrywide, over 150 million tree seedlings were



NEMA Board of Management planting a tree at Kiu wetland in Makueni County during the Presidential launch of National Tree Growing Day.

planted. Over 120 ,000 tree seedlings were planted at Kiu Wetland. During the event, the Head of State reiterated his call to Kenyans to conserve their forests and wetlands in order to sustain the livelihoods of the local communities and stabilise the environment whose deterioration he noted will be devastating to the country. The President said that conservation of the environment and especially forests would ensure adequate provision of water which will boost food production even in the arid and semi arid areas of the country.

The CS on her part said that her Ministry working with all stakeholders including County Governments will collaborate to secure fragile ecosystems which are crucial for the sustenance of life. She called on the Kiu community to conserve their wetland saying that it was the only source of water for domestic use and irrigation in the area. All leaders agreed to work together to actualize the growing of 15 billion trees by 2032.


Encouraging public participation, Environment Cabinet Secretary ,Soipan Tuya called on Kenyans to contribute to the initiative by planting at least two seedlings each during the exercise. "Please take part in this noble cause because it benefits us all," she said.

While promoting the tree-planting initiative, Tuya urged Kenyans to utilize a mobile application called 'Jaza Miti' to document all tree-growing activities.

She stressed the step is crucial for the ministry to monitor and track the progress made toward the ambitious goal of planting 100 million trees on Monday alone. All leaders agreed to work together to actualize the growing of 15 billion trees by 2032.



H.E President, Dr. William Ruto, C.G.H plants a tree as he presided over the launch of national tree growing at Kiu Wetland in Makindu, Makueni County



Climate change is a reality we can no longer wish away. We will continue to protect our environment through tree planting and ensure we leave behind a nation that the future generation will be proud of.

His Excellency Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H.
President of the Republic of Kenya

During Launch of National Tree Growing at Kiu Wetland, Makueni county

The Inaugural e-Waste Conference held



Environment, Climate Change and Forestry CS, Hon. Soipan Tuya (6th L) with World Bank delegates from Tanzania, Zambia, Ghana, Senegal during the e-waste conference at Sarova WhiteSands Hotel in Mombasa

|| BY S. IRUNGU

Five African countries - Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Ghana and Senegal are working together under the African Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project to address issues of e-waste in Africa funded by the World Bank.

The African Environmental Health and Pollution Management Project is a five years Global Environment Facility sixth framework funded project in five African countries notably; Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Ghana and Senegal with World Bank as the Implementing Agency.

In Kenya, NEMA is the executing agency and the project main objective is to strengthen institutional capacity to manage and regulate e-waste and related Unintended Persistent Organic Pollutants (UPOPS) in Kenya.

The inaugural African e-waste management and UPOPs was held in Mombasa Kenya from 2nd to 6th October, 2023.



The Government is setting up a pilot e-waste handling facility at Konza Technopolis to open up the e-waste value chain for wealth and employment creation in line with the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BeTA) blueprint and the Ministry's circular economy programme.

Hon. Soipan Tuya
Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry

The opening ceremony was presided over by the Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Soipan Tuya. The weeklong conference brought together stakeholders across the globe.

In line with the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants, Kenya is working with partners to protect human health and the environment from harmful Unintentional Persistent Organic Pollutants (uPOPs), mercury and e-waste through a series of

interventions.

She stated that the Ministry is working with Counties to build their capacity to handle waste. She added that the engagement with World Bank and the Green Environment Facility to build a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) at Konza, the first in Africa will be a milestone in management of e-waste. There are currently only 2 MRFs in the world based in Europe.



“Kenya generates 51.3 metric tonnes of e-waste each year but only 1 % is collected and recycled. We are working with World Bank and Green Environment Facility to advance sound e-waste management to safeguard our environment and our people,” NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS stated.

The Chairman, Emilio Mugo noted that the Authority's ban on single use plastic carrier bags in 2017 has contributed to a more clean country. He rallied the neighboring countries to also ban the bags to prevent proliferation of the bags into the country through the porous borders.

World Bank Lead Environmental Specialist & Program TTL, Abdelaziz Lagnaoui informed the gathering that the World Bank will continue working with African countries to build their capacity to manage e-waste as well as handle other emerging environmental challenges facing not only Kenya but the global community at large.



CS Environment, Climate and Forestry, Hon Soipan Tuya with NEMA officials and World Bank delegates during the e-waste conference in Mombasa.

“Kenya generates 51.3 metric tonnes of e-waste each year but only 1 % is collected and recycled. We are working with World Bank and Green Environment Facility to advance sound e-waste management to safeguard our environment and our people”

*Mamo B. Mamo, EBS
Director General, NEMA*

The project implementation is at 40% since its launch in 2020. It has so far managed to transfer knowledge to various organizations and individuals dealing with ewaste recycling and build their capacity to manage ewaste.

*Dr. Charles Lange
AEHPMP Coordinator*



Pictorial



Deputy Governor Laikipia County, H.E Reuben Kamuri (R) receives NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS accompanied by the Chairman, Emilio Mugo during the tree planting exercise in the County.



NEMA Board Vice Chair, Ms. Sophia Matura planting a tree in Ngong Forest during the launch of tree planting campaign.



NEMA Staff when they hosted Senior military officers from the National Defence College at NEMA HQ

Pictorial



NEMA World Bank project-AEHPMP team during the 6th implementation mission at Konza Technopolis at the MRF facility.



NEMA Staff during planting of trees at Dik Dik gardens wetland in Nairobi



From L: NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS, Hon. Mutula Kilonzo Jnr, Governor Makueni County, Board Member, Dr. Loice Kipkiror and Board Chair, Emilio Mugo during tree planting at Kiu Wetland, Makueni County

NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS with NEMA Obadiah Mungai during a meeting with CS Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Hon. Soipan Tuya to discuss on climate projects at the Ministry HQ



NEMA, Governors Seek Synergies on Environment Management



NEMA board members with Governors: H.E. Dr Wilber K. Ottichilo (Vihiga)(C seated) who is also the CoG Committee chairman on Environment, Hon. Andrew Mwadime (Taita Taveta) (Seated 2nd L) and Dr. Julius Makau Malombe, EGH (Kitui)(L Seated) during the meeting with NEMA Board at Delta House, Nairobi.

|| BY S. IRUNGU

Some of devolved environmental functions

- Solid waste management
- Noise pollution management
- Development control
- Sewerage systems and waste water treatment
- Operationalization of County Environment Committee
- Development of County Environmental Action plans

The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) Board of Management held a meeting with the Council of Governors (CoG) Environment Committee at their offices at Delta House, Nairobi on 2nd November, 2023.

The meeting was hosted by the Governor of Vihiga County, H.E. Dr Wilber K. Ottichilo who is also the CoG Committee chairman on Environment. The meeting was attended by H.E Governor of Taita Taveta, Hon. Andrew Mwadime and Kitui Governor - Dr. Julius Makau Malombe, EGH.

According to Dr. Ottichilo, NEMA and Governors will continue working together to streamline various areas of cooperation on devolved environmental functions. He added that they will also be working together to pull funds for climate change adaptation and other environmental initiatives.

Moreover, Governors will be working with NEMA on the review of EMCA among other environmental laws to ensure that they incorporate the aspirations of their Counties.

The NEMA Chairman, Emilio Mugo expressed optimism that joint endeavours between the Authority and Governors will enhance mobilisation of resources to undertake various environmental initiatives as well as improve the cleanliness and health of environment throughout the 47 County Governments.

The NEMA Board of management and Council of

Governors met to seek synergies on various devolved environmental functions.

On solid waste management NEMA urged Counties to establish proper infrastructure to manage waste in line with Sustainable Waste Management Act, 2022 and Solid Waste Management Strategy, 2015.

According to NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS, the Authority will be working with the Counties to phase out dumpsites throughout the country and development of landfills and Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) to ensure there is minimal waste.



60% of waste from households is normally organic which if managed, the problem of waste management will be significantly reduced

Mamo B. Mamo, EBS
Director General, NEMA



NEMA Board of Directors with Governors during the meeting at Delta House, Nairobi.



NEMA Board of Directors with County Governors during the meeting at Delta House, Nairobi.

The Counties were also urged to ensure segregation is done at source. This will make it easy for waste transporters to collect the waste. Moreover, NEMA will work with Counties to ensure that waste transportation vehicles are well aligned. Joint enforcement will also be conducted to enhance surveillance on waste management.

Noise regulation -The Authority urged Counties to address the numerous cases of noise pollution within their respective Counties. Despite the devolution of noise regulation, the Authority continues to receive several noise related complaints.

Towards this end, NEMA will support Counties with noise meters and technical support to regulate noise pollution from various establishments such as churches, mosques and clubs. However, the DG emphasized that the implementation of noise regulation must be spearheaded by the Counties as guided by the Noise and Excessive Vibrations Regulations which has mapped out noise levels for different areas.

Physical Planning and developments control - Counties were asked to streamline the change of use processes and develop solid development plans within their cities and towns to ensure developments are compatible in certain localities.

Moreover, Counties were urged to lead by example by undertaking Environmental Impact Assessments for their developments. In addition, Counties are encouraged to develop master plans and zonation plans to ensure developments are done in systematic fashion.

Broken Sewerage treatment and inefficiencies of waste water treatment- Counties were also urged to enhance their sewerage treatment systems to ensure that water bodies are not polluted. Proper waste treatment facilities should be put in place in line with the Water Quality Regulations. The Counties should give priorities to expansion of sewer infrastructure especially in urban centres.

Gazettement of Environmental Inspectors - The Authority has already gazetted over 100 County Environmental Inspectors to enhance environmental laws enforcement. However, the DG noted that impersonation of environmental inspectors remains a big challenge. He asked the Counties to help to stamp out imposters of environmental inspectors.

Gazettement of CECs- The DG further urged Counties that have not gazetted County Environmental Committee (CECs) to ensure that they do so as the committee plays a pivotal role in addressing environmental issues within the County. He thanked various Governors for embracing the committees within their Counties.

Development of CEAPs- The DG urged the Governors to ensure their County develop County Environment Action Plans (CEAP).

Participation in global environmental activities - He also urged Counties to participate in global environmental activities to elevate the environmental agenda within their jurisdictions.

Minimum Requirements for Solid Waste Management

A. Waste collection

1. Ensure that the waste collection areas are zoned;
2. Ensure timely and regular collection of all solid wastes either through door-to-door collection or from centralized collection points;
3. Ensure waste collection facilities such as skips, bulk containers and waste cubicles are regularly emptied and do not become eye-sores;

B. Waste transportation

4. Ensure that all collected waste is transported using NEMA licensed vehicles to designated disposal sites.

C. Waste disposal site

5. Ensure there is a designated site (s) for waste disposal.
6. Ensure that the disposal site is secured with a fence and a gate manned by a county government official to control dumping and spread of waste outside the disposal site.
7. Ensure all incoming waste is weighed or estimated and the quantities recorded in tonnes.
8. Develop and maintain motorable roads inside the site to ensure ease of access during disposal.
9. Ensure the waste is spread, covered and compacted at regular intervals.
10. Put in place appropriate control measures for the management of dumpsite fires.
11. Enhance security and control of the disposal sites so that illegal activities are contained.

D. Licensing

12. Ensure waste transportation vehicles have NEMA licences;
13. Obtain licences to operate waste disposal sites.

The County Governments should strive to ensure continuous improvement of collection methods, transportation and disposal facilities. Effective waste management systems will deliver a clean and healthy environment for all as granted by the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.



Launch of Wetlands Restoration in Nairobi



NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS flanked by NEMA staff planting a tree during a tree planting exercise at Dik Dik wetland in Nairobi.

“Adopt-a-Wetland Initiative” seeks to catalyze Government’s efforts to plant 15 billion trees by 2032, restore and conserve wetlands and their associated catchments.

The objective of the Adopt-a-wetland initiative is to enhance wetlands restoration and conservation through establishment of lead champions for wetlands conservation.

**Mamo B. Mamo, EBS
NEMA Director General**

Dik Dik gardens wetland is located in the greenery Kileleshwa in Nairobi County. It is among the few wetlands in Nairobi and for some years has been threatened by rapidly growing developments.

The wetland constitutes one of the main sources of water for Kirichwa Ndogo River that feeds into Nairobi River. The area was gazetted as a wetland in 2021.

NEMA in conjunction with the National Environment Tribunal (NET) and other stakeholders chose the wetland to host the launch of wetlands restoration

in Nairobi County held on 22nd November, 2023. The launch was led by the Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS on behalf of the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment, climate Change and Forestry, Hon Soipan Tuya.

The launch is part of the ongoing Government’s efforts to plant 15 billion trees by 2032, restore and conserve wetlands and their associated catchments under the newly conceived “Adopt-a-Wetland Initiative” which seeks to catalyze the participation of various stakeholders in enhancing wetlands conservation in the country.

ecosystems.

The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry and the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) are at the center of driving the agenda on behalf of the government. Wetlands are among Kenya's most productive ecosystems and include lakes, swamps, marshes, rivers and their riparian zones.

Wetlands cover approximately 4% of Kenya's land surface area. These ecosystems are important sources of construction materials, food, medicine, pasture for livestock and sources of water for domestic and industrial use. Ecologically, wetlands harbour diverse habitats which provide feeding and breeding areas for wildlife some of which are endangered, vulnerable, threatened and range restricted. Many of them are also Important Bird Areas (IBA). The Authority has already mapped over 10,000 wetlands countrywide and are earmarked for tree growing.

Wetlands are perhaps the most threatened ecosystems in Kenya today. They have been targeted for conversion to agriculture and settlement over the past five decades or so, partly due to lack of recognition of their crucial functions and values. Other threats include unsustainable livelihood activities; pollution; and overexploitation of resources among others. To ensure proper management of these ecosystems in the country the government has put in place appropriate legal and policy framework as well as implemented programmes and projects. The non-state actors have also continued to play important role in complementing government efforts by undertaking various programme and projects.

NEMA is rolling out the 'Adopt-a-Wetland initiative'. The objective of the Adopt-a-wetland initiative is to enhance wetlands restoration and conservation through establishment of lead champions for wetlands conservation.

The stakeholders targeted in the adopt-a-wetland and catchments restoration initiative include government agencies; NGOs; private sector players and individual members of the public. A stakeholder interested in being a lead champion in conservation of a certain wetland will be the 'wetland adopter'.

A wetland adopter will be expected to take lead in mobilizing other stakeholders to plan and implement activities that enhance the ecological integrity and sustainable use of the wetland and catchment

A stakeholder interested in being a lead champion in conservation of a certain wetland will be the 'wetland adopter'. A wetland adopter will be expected to take lead in mobilizing other stakeholders to plan and implement activities that enhance the ecological integrity and sustainable use of the wetland and catchment ecosystems.

Such activities include: tree planting; raising public awareness on importance of the wetlands; fencing and development of wetland management plans; community livelihood improvement initiatives and mobilisation of resources needed for the wetland and catchment protection.

The involvement of relevant actors in the wetland adoption project will be important for success and sustainability of the adoption project. Such actors include the wetland adjacent community; local administration; and relevant government agencies among others.

The wetlands restoration efforts are expected to yield immense benefits in the long term such as contribution to the attainment of the 15 billion trees national target by 2032; improved wetlands ecological integrity; as well as improved provision of ecosystem services from targeted wetlands among other benefits.

The National Environment Tribunal CEO, Bellinda Akello also attended the event among other guests. The exercise to adopt a wetland and grow trees is being undertaken in all the Counties progressively.



Nairobi County CDE, Catherine Thaihi with Jimmy Owiti during a tree planting in Nairobi

NEMA leads tree growing exercise in Embu

|| BY D. KIRIMI & E. MUENDO



NEMA Chairman, Emilio Mugo (C) leads other leaders in planting trees at ACK Mukangu School and Kairuri Primary School in Embu County

The collaborative efforts between the NEMA and other State Departments within the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry signify a pivotal step towards the realization of a sustainable future through the initiation of the National Landscapes and Ecosystem Restoration Campaign.

This concerted endeavor stands as a testament to the collective dedication and commitment toward the ambitious and transformative 15 billion Tree Growing Initiative, a monumental initiative aimed at rejuvenating and preserving our natural ecosystems. The roll out of the campaign in all the 47 Counties is being coordinated by County Commissioners with National Government leadership and the County Environment Committee (CECs).

NEMA Chairmain, Emilio Mugo, on the 1st of December 2023 led a tree growing activity in Manyatta Constituency, Embu County. The activity was carried out in two schools, ACK Mukangu School and Kairuri Primary school. A total of over 5,000 trees were planted during the event.

The assortment of trees that were planted comprised indigenous and fruit-bearing species. This deliberate choice not only aligns with the conservation of native biodiversity but also holds the promise of fostering local ecosystems while providing tangible benefits

to the communities in the form of sustenance and ecological services.

The significance of this occasion was notably heightened by the presence of dignitaries, adding a layer of importance and resonance to the event. Among them was the Member of Parliament (MP) for Manyatta, Honorable Gitonga Mukunji, whose attendance underscored a steadfast commitment to the cause of environmental preservation.

Furthermore, the representation by Mr. Pawel, acting on behalf of the esteemed Ambassador of the Republic of Poland in Kenya, His Excellency Miroslaw Gojdz, held profound implications. It symbolized not just the local significance of the event but also signified a broader, global acknowledgment of the urgent need for solidarity in tackling environmental challenges.

This representation from the esteemed Ambassador's office highlighted a shared responsibility and a unified front in addressing the pressing issues surrounding environmental conservation, transcending geographical boundaries in pursuit of a sustainable future. Speaking during the event, the Chairman emphasized the importance of growing trees in order to combat the oppressive effects of climate change. He also reiterated that we are no longer tree planting, but tree growing, hence Kenyans should nurture the trees to maturity.

Challenges of waste water management in Urban cities case of Mlolongo

|| BY MACHAKOS TEAM

In Machakos County, Mavoko Sub County, Mlolongo town unfolding calamity is emerging.

Mlolongo has a population of 136,000 and water consumption of 54,440,000 litres per day. However, Mlolongo has been facing a serious epidemic of waste water management which has been brought by infrastructural conditions and lack of maintenance leading to frequent overflows along the streets and residential areas.

Additionally, there is also a challenge with sewer line connection within the area, and most of the landlords rely on septic tanks which is expensive to maintain and exhaust especially during rain seasons.

This flowing sewerage poses environmental threat such as environmental degradation, pollution, deprived sanitation and a strain on the few existing sanitary facilities. The end result is the contamination of water sources including piped-water system.

Mlolongo has grown very fast in the past decade in population which has gradually led to increased demand for land use pushing the poor to settle in fragile and unsavoury areas vulnerable to natural hazards such as flooding. Urban poverty, lack of employment opportunities, and inadequate urban planning have also conspired in the gradual growth of informal settlements associated with poor waste water management system in Mlolongo.

Improper disposal of untreated

waste containing agro- chemicals, heavy metals, and microbial as well as persistent organic pollutants from domestic, commercial, and industrial premises into unprotected surface watercourses and wetland areas pollutes subsurface water posing a danger to human health and eutrophication, deoxygenation and habitat modification of the riverine system. Contaminated water sources due to untreated sewage contribute to the spread of waterborne diseases such as cholera and dysentery, posing significant health risks to the residents.

Other effects resulting from waste management in Mlolongo include; Environmental degradation: Sewage contains harmful bacteria, viruses, and pathogens that can contaminate water bodies, making them unsafe for aquatic life and human consumption. It also leads to the growth of harmful algae, reducing oxygen levels in water and death of fish.

Eutrophication: Sewage carries nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus, which can cause eutrophication in water bodies. This excessive nutrient influx leads to the rapid growth of algae and aquatic plants, disrupting the natural balance and harming aquatic ecosystems.

Air Pollution: Sewage produces foul odours and emits harmful gases such as methane and hydrogen sulphide, contributing to air pollution. These gases can be harmful to human health and can also have detrimental effects

on nearby vegetation. Also these gases remain on air and during rainy season's they are a tapped out by rain water where they form acidic rain which destruct our environment hence destructing our land and causing climate change. In addition, air pollution has caused respiratory diseases to the residents including asthmatic and tuberculosis.

Sewage pollution can lead to a decline in biodiversity by harming aquatic life and disrupting ecosystems. Many species may not be able to survive in polluted environments, leading to a loss of biodiversity.

The challenges faced by Mlolongo in wastewater management are emblematic of similar issues in urban areas globally. However, the community's resilience, coupled with government efforts and collaborative initiatives, provides hope for a brighter future. By investing in advanced wastewater treatment technologies, fostering public awareness, and promoting community engagement, Mlolongo can pave the way toward sustainable wastewater management, ensuring a cleaner environment, improved public health, and enhanced quality of life for its residents.

As Mlolongo continues to progress, the journey toward effective wastewater management serves as a testament to the community's determination and the transformative power of collective action.

Narok launch El Nino Preparedness

|| BY BRIAN NYUNJA & NAROK TEAM

The county government launched the El Nino preparedness mitigation and response plan, the county disaster management unit and town clean up on the 10th October 2023.

To mark the day, the county government, state and non-state actors including NEMA, banks, Red Cross, traders' association, Boda Boda association, women and youth groups and individuals took part in a clean-up of Narok town.

The major emphasis of the clean-up was on the unclogging of drainage network within the town as part of the El Nino preparedness, mitigation and response plan and the National world cleanup day whose theme was think before you trash it.

Narok town is located within a geographical basin with the surrounding areas contributing towards the surface run off that flood the town before emptying

into the Enkare Narok river. The governor described the history of flash floods that have had devastating effects on human life, animals and properties within the town. A case in point is the flash floods that occurred in 2015 and 2016 creating havoc within the town. The governor stated that all the drainage channels within the town will be cleared to ensure free flow of run off to mitigate against flood events.

As part of the disaster preparedness and mitigation plan, the governor launched the Narok county disaster management unit located at the county commissioner's complex. This will coordinate rescue and communication efforts in case of disasters and emergencies during the El Nino period.

The leader of Kenya Red Cross Narok mentioned that the disaster management unit will involve both state and non-state actors working together to mitigate against the effects of a flood and other disasters.

Air Quality Control



NEMA Environmental inspectors, police accompanied by an officer from the Occupational Safety and Health Services attended to an incident at Mustech Concrete, a Cabro making factory at Makuyu, Muranga County.

The officers took records of the noise levels of the surrounding environment.

The Authority took action after a complaint from a resident about the premise making excessive noise and vibrations. The results of the exercise was intended to inform the Authority's decision.

Noise pollution regulation is a devolved function. However, the Authority has mandate over excessive vibrations whereas Counties are required to enforce over noise pollution.

The Authority developed the air quality regulations 2014 that prohibit production of any loud, unreasonable, unnecessary or unusual noise which annoys, disturbs or endangers the comfort of people. The regulations have been cascaded to Counties to guide in development of their own regulations.

End Plastic pollution negotiations in Nairobi

|| BY S. IRUNGU

The third session of the Inter-Governmental Negotiating Committee (INC) on ending plastic pollution was officially opened from Monday 13th to 19th November, 2023 at the United Nations offices in Nairobi. This was the third such meeting after Uruguay and France held the 1st and the 2nd INC respectively.

The meeting sought to fast-track the process of addressing plastic pollution and conclude negotiations next year so that the treaty can be adopted by the mid-2025.

The meeting was officially opened on 13th November by H.E President Dr. William Ruto. In his remarks, the President stated that no one should be left behind in the shift from a linear to a circular model of plastic life cycle management. He said that to deal with plastic pollution, humanity must change.

“The global community is waiting with great anticipation for the instrument that you will develop to chart a global plan for tackling plastic pollution, this is an opportunity to convert the zero draft into a plan,” he said.

Representatives of more than 170 nations met in Nairobi to negotiate what concrete measures should be included in a binding worldwide treaty to end plastic pollution.

INC-3 marks the mid-point of the journey towards a global treaty. It follows two earlier rounds of negotiations: INC-1, which took place in Punta del Este, Uruguay, in November 2022, and INC-2, which was held in Paris in June. Two more INC sessions are planned for 2024.

Last year, Nations agreed to finalize by 2024 a world first UN treaty to address the scourge of plastics pollution.

The African Group of Negotiators comprising of INC Focal point from African countries met in Kampala on 16th to 20th October 2023 and considered the Zero draft and came up with the African Position to guide the African Negotiators in framing their



Participants during the third session of the Inter-Governmental Negotiating Committee (INC3) on ending plastic pollution at UN Complex Nairobi

The Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry has established a Working Group to deliberate on issues pertaining to the ongoing negotiations for a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution. This has included the inputs from the plastics sector under the Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) and Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA).

According to data, global plastic production has more than doubled since the start of the century to 460 million tons and could triple by 2060 if nothing is done. The data further estimates that only 9 percent of plastics is recycled. Microplastics have been found everywhere from clouds to the deepest parts of the ocean.

Plastic also contributes to global warming, accounting for 3.4% of global emissions in 2019, according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Kenya banned the use, manufacture and importation of plastics carrier bags in 2017. The National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) has been enforcing the ban. The ban is currently at over 80 percent success rate with evidential cleanliness of the environment from plastic carrier bags which largely littered the towns and cities.

Adopt a Wetland Initiative

|| BY J. MUTURO & S. IRUNGU

The National Environment Management Authority led a tree planting exercise at Maiyanat, Laikipia County on 17th November, 2023 as it kicked off 'adopt a wetland' initiative to boost tree growing in wetlands and their catchments.

Maiyanat has a 250 hectares demonstration plot out of their 64,000 hectares community conservancy that employs the use of semi-circular bunds and vallerani among other indigenous ways to enhance water retention to facilitate restoration of degraded landscapes to restore water sources and wetlands downstream.

Speaking during the exercise, NEMA Chairman, Emilio Mugo appreciated the community for using the indigenous knowledge to restore their degraded landscapes to facilitate water retention and reduce land degradation. The demo site acts as a catchment for the wetlands downstream.

He pledged the community that the Authority will plan to have the World Desertification and Drought Day next year held at Maiyanat to showcase to the world that degraded lands can be restored.

"We have over 10,000 wetlands countrywide. NEMA is working to map out all the wetlands and develop a clear path for protection and restoration to enhance their sustainability especially through tree planting," Emilio stated.

Speaking during the event, the NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS stated that County

Environment Committee (CECs) is a very important structure for delivery of environmental agenda in the Counties. He thanked Laikipia County for being among the few Counties that have gazetted CEC and legislated various environmental laws.

He said that the Authority will work with Maiyanat community for restoration of degraded landscapes. The Authority will also document these practices for reciprocating in other semi-arid areas.

The event was also attended by the Laikipia County Commissioner-Joseph Kanyiri and Deputy Governor Laikipia, Reuben Kamuri.

The Deputy Governor noted that the County has been promoting the restoration of degraded areas and rehabilitation of wetlands in the County. He added that the County is riding on the wave of tree planting where already 1.2 million seedlings have been planted within one week.

DG Kamuri underscored the need to promote private nurseries as the County still needs over 375 million seedlings to meet her obligation in helping the country to grow 15 billion trees by 2032.

NEMA has kicked off an exercise 'Adopt a wetland' that will facilitate 47 Counties to rehabilitate and restore wetlands within their Counties through tree planting in line with the National wetlands restoration strategy as a critical contribution towards 15 billion tree growing campaign.



A semi-circular bund and vallerani at Maiyanat Conservancy in Laikipia used to retain water.



NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS speaking during a side event hosted by NEMA at COP28

NEMA hosts a side event at COP28



Dignitaries and participants during a side event hosted by NEMA at COP28

United Nations Climate Change conferences (COPs) take place every year, and are the world's only multilateral decision-making forum on climate change with almost complete membership of every country in the world.

The COP is where the world comes together to agree on ways to address the climate crisis, such as limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius, helping vulnerable communities adapt to the effects of climate change, and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

More than 70,000 delegates attended COP28 that took place in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 20th November to 12 December, 2023.

The conference brought together business leaders, young people, climate scientists, Indigenous Peoples, journalists, and various other experts and stakeholders are also among the participants.

COP 28 offered an opportunity to identify global solutions for limiting global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees, inform counties' preparations for revised and more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (national climate plans) due by 2025 and accelerate the green transition.

COP28 was particularly momentous as it marked the conclusion of the first 'global stocktake' of the world's efforts to address climate change under the Paris Agreement.

Having shown that progress was too slow across all areas of climate action – from reducing greenhouse gas emissions, to strengthening resilience to a changing climate, to getting the financial and technological support to vulnerable nations – countries responded with a decision on how to accelerate action across all areas by 2030. This includes a call on governments to speed up the transition away from fossil fuels to renewables such as wind and solar power in their next round of climate commitments.

NEMA hosted a side event on Building resilience of climate vulnerable communities in Kenya side event dubbed “putting communities at the center of climate action” on the margins of the COP 28 in Dubai at the Kenya Pavilion.

The Authority has implemented the Adaptation Fund Projected aimed at improving the livelihoods of Kenyans in 14 Counties through provision of water and transfer of technology and skills through establishment of 30 Adaptation Villages across the Country.

Naivasha Marks World Fisheries Day

|| BY FRANCIS IRUNGU

World Fisheries Day is celebrated on November 21st annually and is dedicated to highlighting the critical importance of healthy ocean ecosystems and ensuring sustainable stocks of fisheries in the world.

Commemoration of this day further explores finding solutions to the increasingly interconnected problems that the world is facing in following sustainable models of our ocean ecosystems.

Naivasha Sub County residents joined the rest of the world in celebrating World Fisheries Day 2023 by cleaning and restocking of Lake Naivasha with a purpose of highlighting the importance of maintaining sustainable fisheries and health aquatic ecosystem.

Spanning an area of 120-160 square kilometers, Lake Naivasha holds significant ecological importance as: a freshwater lake; a designated Ramsar site; an Important Bird Area (IBA); and a global biodiversity hotspot. The lake is also a vital resource supporting a population of 253,224 people around Naivasha.

Unfortunately, the lake's ecological significance has been jeopardized by the accumulation of abandoned fishing nets thereby adversely affecting both lake users and the ecosystem. Recognizing this threat, stakeholders in Naivasha Sub County collaborated in organizing a build-up/cleanup initiative across five Beach Management Units (BMUs) around Lake Naivasha namely: Karagita, Central, Kamere, Kasarani and Oloiden beaches.

The primary goal was to convey best practices for restoring the lake's vitality, raise awareness about the importance of a clean and healthy environment, and educate the fishing community on better fisheries resource management.

The cleanup activity took place on the event's eve being on Monday 20th November 2023 followed by restocking exercise on the material day on Tuesday 21st November 2023.

This year's event was unprecedented where 150,000 tilapia fingerlings were restocked and over 40 tonnes of garbage and abandoned net retrieved from the lake and adequately disposed. The global theme was "Cast

the Net" while the local one was "Building enabling policy environments for small-scale artisanal fisheries" thereby underscoring the crucial role of small-scale fishers in fostering sustainable fisheries management. The Joint Initiative Committee brought together diverse stakeholders including the fishing community, government agencies, the private sector and local environmental conservation institutions.

This collaborative effort was coordinated through the BMU Committee, National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), the Naivasha Fisheries Department, Kenya Fisheries Service (KFS), Kenya Marine and Fisheries Research Institute (KMFRI), Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Kenya Coast Guard (KCG) and Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI).

The primary objective of the committee was to: facilitate discussions, planning, and execution of the cleanup and restocking activities; oversee the coordination of efforts among various stakeholders involved in the initiative; ensure the successful implementation of the cleanup to address the issue of abandoned fishing nets; promote awareness about the importance of maintaining a clean and healthy environment for the lake's sustainability; and to educate the fishery community on improved management practices for Lake Naivasha's fisheries resources.

The BMU committee played a crucial role in financing the initial day of the exercise, mobilizing various boat owners for the cleanup and in issuing directives to ensure the comprehensive involvement of fishing communities. All licensed fishing boats and their crews also participated in the cleanup event where fishing activities were suspended for the designated two days. Traders and other stakeholders participated by cleaning the beach landings while patrol boats were strategically deployed to supervise and coordinate the cleanup ensuring that all collected waste was transported to the designated holding sites for proper disposal.

This initiative resulted in multiple benefits including restoration of Lake Naivasha's ecosystem and increasing fish population with a ripple effect of promoting food security and bolstering employment opportunities.

Propelling Sustainable Solid Waste Management in Kitui

BY CATHERINE ADWONG'A & KITUI TEAM

The National Solid Waste Management Strategy 2015 was meant to guide sustainable solid waste management in Kenya ensuring a healthy, safe and secure environment for all, its proposal on the 10 minimum requirements for solid waste management overtime remained grey in a number of rural counties.

While there were commitments and efforts to achieve the requirements, many counties were able to invest in waste trucks, skip loaders and waste cubicles. A number of counties were able to acquire initial waste transportation licenses, secured waste disposal sites, constructed guard houses, provided motorized roads and compacted waste.

However, these requirements were not sustained and have tended to decline overtime. Major cities including Mombasa, Kisumu, Nakuru, Eldoret and Thika that were targeted for flagship projects in MTP II have continuously made significant progress in solid waste management particularly through Public-Private Partnerships. A number of waste service providers have emerged in these counties.

They have undertaken significant investments in equipment's and machinery. Their passion and commitments in the solid waste sector is very much alive. Solid waste management has evolved to be a targeted livelihood inviting a number of actors. Formalization has also been observed in this sector with a number of associations that have been registered.

The National Sustainable Waste Management Policy 2021 and the Sustainable Solid Waste Management Act 2022 today provide a shift from the Linear Model to Circular model of solid waste management.

The National Environment Management Authority has embarked on engagements with the County Governments in the identification of Solid Waste Value Chains. As opportunities emerge, so do conflicts. The Sustainable waste management Act makes provision for segregation of waste at source.

In some areas, these has generated protests among

waste pickers who now feel disenfranchised. Solid waste collectors now maximize and are able to sell recyclable waste expanding on the income streams. The coming in of producer responsibility organization has also enhanced markets for recyclable waste.

While waste management is enhanced in major towns in other areas like Kitui, there is no much action. Probably because potential waste generation and recyclables are limited.

With this though, The County Government of Kitui has committed and continues to undertake investments in the waste sector.

Recent, engagement between the ministry of Environment and Forestry, NEMA and the County Government of Kitui has seen the county indicate interests in material recovery facilities investments.

The County Government has already invested in land for waste disposal in Kanyonyo. Land in Muto-mo, Isaangwa and Kabati have also been set aside for transfer stations.





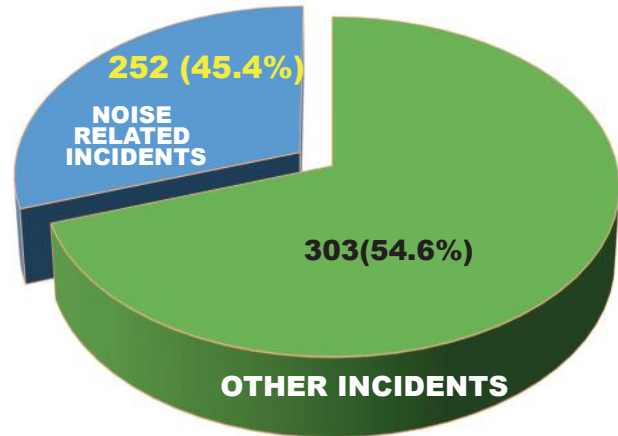
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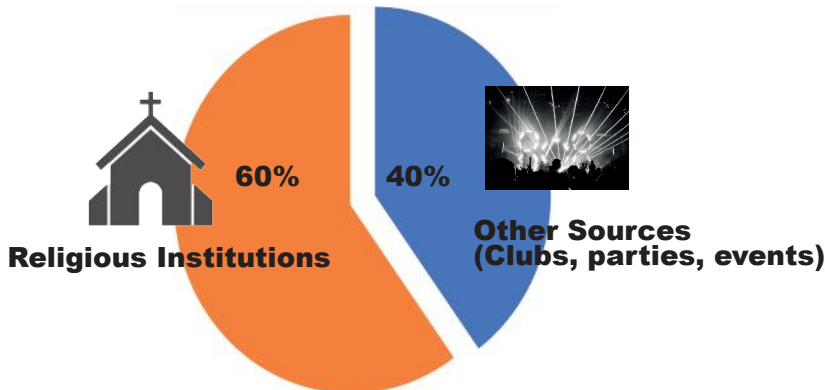
NOISE POLLUTION

The Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA) Noise Regulations provides for the prohibition of sound producing and sound amplifying equipment that are loud and annoying or offensive in a manner that interferes with the comfort, repose, health or safety of the members of the public, creates a risk within or outside any building and at a distance 30 meters or more from the source of the sound.

NEMA Incidence Register Quarter One 2023-2024



SOURCES OF NOISE



The complaints from religious institutions arise from mounting of speakers outside their premises and playing music the whole day as well as night vigils, prayers, sermons and call for prayers where loud speakers are used.

NEMA therefore stipulates that the religious leaders, community representatives and others relevant stakeholders to embrace a cooperative and constructive relationship that emphasize the importance of responsible noise management while preserving the cultural and spiritual significances of religious practices.

The Authority will continue to sensitize the public on environmental matters ensuring the health and safety for all Kenyans. These will reinforce the significance of collaboration and mutual respect between religious leaders and communities in creating harmonious living environment.

N/B: Noise Regulation is a devolved function. However, NEMA continues to work with all the 47 County governments to ensure the right to a clean and healthy environment for all Kenyans is safeguarded.

Report Environmental Incidents through:

Call: 0786 101 100  : 0741 101 100

Email: incidence@nema.go.ke



 @NemaKenya  nema.go.ke



Vision

A clean, healthy and sustainable environment

Mission

To coordinate, supervise and manage all matters relating to the environment in Kenya

Motto

Our Environment, Our life, Our Responsibility



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