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National Environment Management Authority

Conserving Wetlands

NEMA has upped its effort in Wetlands conservation countrywide through mapping and development of management plans for these resources. During World Wetlands Day 2023 at Enkongu Enkare, Narok County, it was resolved that wetlands protection is paramount.



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Change of guard



Towards #Mission15BillionTrees



Plastic bags ban enforcement

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NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS receives a special magazine from Akin Naphtal, the CEO of Instinct Wave, Ghana in recognition of NEMA's outstanding performance in the public sector in Africa

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Work Closely with County Governments - PS Tells NEMA



NEMA CDEs, Management and Board Members during a retreat in Naivasha

BY S. IRUNGU

The PS for Environment and Climate Change, Eng. Festus Ng'eno has asked the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA) to create a more harmonious and collaborative relationship with the County Governments to enhance environmental management in the Country and service delivery.

He noted that since some of the environmental functions are devolved, there should be a smooth working relationship with the Counties through the County Environment Committees for which NEMA acts as its Secretary.

The PS said this as he graced the annual NEMA County Director of Environment meeting in Naivasha. The meeting offers an ample opportunity for the Directors to interact with the Board and Management to iron issues on the Counties in regards to environmental management.

He singled out Solid Waste management and noise regulation which are devolved functions. He urged NEMA to work with Counties and build their capacity to handle these challenges facing most Counties.

“The emphasis should be placed on the need to establish more dumpsites to handle the menace of

solid waste,” PS Ng'eno said.

The PS directed the Authority especially through the County Directors of Environment to plug into the planting and growing of 15 Billion trees initiative.

Moreover, the PS urged the Authority to closely work with the communities through awareness and environmental education to ensure that the locals are involved in managing environment in their surroundings.

NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS stated that the Authority closely works with the Council of Governors to easily coordinate environmental matters in the Country. He reiterated the Authority's commitment to environmental management and conservation across the country. He notified the PS that Authority is implementing projects under it and is ready for more programmes in future.

“The Authority is committed to environmental management and implementation of overall mandate under it in regards to coordination and supervision of environmental matters in the country,” Mamo said.

The Director General also pointed out that the Authority has already identified and developed projects and initiatives to plug into the national 15 Billion tree planting and growing campaign.

Change of guard



NEMA Chairman, Emilio Mugo (R) signs visitors book when he called on NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS following his appointment.



NEMA board of management team led by Chairman, Emilio Mugo (5th Left) when they visited NEMA offices for a familiarization exercise



Enkongu Enkare Spring in Narok South, Narok County

World Wetlands Day Commemorations

BY S. IRUNGU, B. NYUNJA & E. NGOTHO

The World Wetlands Day is an environmentally related celebration which dates back to the year 1971 when several environmentalists gathered to reaffirm protection and love for wetlands, which are water ecosystems containing plant life and other organisms.

Kenya ratified the Ramsar convention in 1990 and has since embarked on comprehensive reforms to address sustainable utilization of wetland resources.

This year, Kenya held the Wetlands Day commemorations at Enkongu Enkare, Narok South, Narok County on 2nd February 2023.

The event was graced by the Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Soipan Tuya. She was accompanied by the Principal Secretary Environment and Climate Change, Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno among other dignitaries.

The CS stated that Narok County has a forest cover of 14.0% and a tree cover of 20% besides the 300 hectares available for restoration. She added that the Ministry

will partner with the County to set aside land for green spaces which I will personally commission.

“The Government has prioritized growing of 15 billion trees over the next 10 years. This will ensure that in addition to having a 30% tree cover, the country’s water towers and sources are protected and well taken cares of Mission 15B,” Hon. Soipan stated.

She added that there is need to continuously expose local community to emerging knowledge on the impact of climate change for improved mitigation and adaptations that could be achieved through wetlands conservation and restoration.

Narok County Government Governor, Patrick Ntutu noted that there is need to conserve the available water sources within the County and prioritize tree growing to acquire the required tree cover.

The Governor pledged to support the locals to in conservation effort through development of water dams, planting trees and protection of public utilities especially water sources.

“There are 8,456 wetlands in Kenya. NEMA has mapped all these wetlands for protection and conservation through development of Integrated Management Plans for this wetlands as well as their gazettement.” NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS.

He added that the Authority will undertake public education towards the gazettement of Enkongu Enkare and Motorok springs. The CS commissioned the rehabilitation of 120 acreage of Enkongu Enkare and fencing of the wetlands.

On his part, NEMA Chairman, Eric Mungai underscored the need to conserve the indigenous water sources to ensure they are sustainably used to meet the needs of the local. He urged the community to individually and collectively take the initiative to protect their environment.

The CS also commissioned the rehabilitation of 120 acreage of Enkongu Enkare and fencing of the wetland. The celebrations were done over several days with cleanups at Narosura town, tree planting within schools and the wetland, community forums at

Narosura catholic church hall and the final celebrations at Enkongu Enkare wetlands. There was also donation of 5 water tanks to nearby schools, tree seedlings to nearby schools for tree growing endeavors and the distribution of relief food as the area is semi-arid and under threat from climate change.

The theme of this year’s celebration was “Wetlands Restoration” and slogan, “Its time for wetlands restoration.” Over 12,000 trees were planted to mark the occasion. The Authority is geared towards supporting the national 15 billion tree planting and growing campaign.

Similar events were held countrywide to create awareness on the need to conserve wetlands



CS Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Hon. Sopian Tuya, CBS planting a tree during the wetlands day celebrations at Ekongu Enkare. She is assisted by DG NEMA, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS among other officials

WWD 2023 IN CAMERA



The launch of Ondiri Wetland Marathon led by From L: PS Environment Eng. Festus Ng'eno, CEC Environment Kiambu, David Kuria, DG NEMA, Mamo B. Mamo, Former Board member, Charles Mulila among others



Narok County Governor, H.E Patrick Ole Ntutu making his speech during the event



A section of members of public following the WWD proceedings at Enkongu Enkare, Narok



A local CBO celebrates after winning a trophy for their conservation effort during the event.



Dignitaries during the World Wetlands Day at Enkongu Enkare, Narok County



PS Eng. Festus Ng'eno, NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, CEC Environment Kiambu County, David Kuria among other participants during the launch of Ondiri Management Plan at Ondiri wetland.

Ondiri Wetland Management Plan Launched

The Ondiri Wetland Integrated Management Plan has been launched today. The launch marked the culmination of the 2nd Ondiri Wetland Conservation Run held today as a buildup towards World Wetlands Day that was held on Thursday, 2nd February 2023 at Enkongu Enkare in Narok County.

Environment and Climate Change, Principal Secretary, Eng. Festus K. Ng'eno flagged off and took part in the 10km race.

The run provided participants the view of the beautiful Ondiri wetland, that the community around it is working to protect and conserve.

The run started from Ondiri Information Center included 3 categories; 10km, 5km, Family fun run and the finishing was at Alliance High School Rugby Pitch.

Ondiri Wetland is a protected wetland and peatbog that is the source of the Nairobi River near Kikuyu, Kenya in Kiambu County. The wetland is under pressure because of water extraction, encroachment, deforestation and accelerated erosion.

The NEMA Director General stated that the Authority has been in the processing of monitoring and mapping put points of pollution of Nairobi River and all have been closed. He noted that the few elements still polluting the river will be addressed soon through collaboration effort of various government agencies.

He stated that the Ondiri management plan will guide in the protection of the ecosystem to ensure its protected.

The event was also attended by CEC Kiambu County, David Kuria who expressed the Kiambu County's resolve to protect the wetland.

Board member Charles Mulila stated that NEMA will seek to have Ondiri Wetland gazetted as one of the Ramsar sites in the country to accelerate its protection for posterity.

Winners of the 3KM, 5KM and 10 KM race categories were awarded with medals.

Inaugural International Day On Zero Waste



Participants during international day on zero waste at UN Complex, Nairobi

BY S. IRUNGU

The right to a clean and healthy environment enshrined in the Constitution 2010 comes with a responsibility that everyone has a duty to manage their waste within their surrounding, NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS stated.

The Director General added that before the plastic bags ban in 2017, supermarkets chain used to release 100 million bags annually. The Authority has made great strides to eliminate the use, manufacture, and importation of the banned bags. The DG was speaking during the International Day on Zero Waste held at United Nations Complex Nairobi on 30th March 2023.

He added that the ban has increased awareness campaigns and recycling initiatives towards creation of a sustainable future reversing the previous status where used plastic bags used to manifest in every city. “We must continue to work together, as a community, to create a sustainable future for ourselves and for generations to come,” the DG

The United Nations General Assembly’s (UNGA) seventy-seventh session on 14 December 2022,

adopted the resolution of “Promoting zero-waste initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and which proclaimed 30 March as the International Day of Zero Waste (hereafter Zero Waste Day), to be observed annually.

The resolution was put forward by Türkiye with 105 other countries; Kenya being one of them and was adopted unanimously by the UNGA.



NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS samples some of the baskets made from recycled papers during the Zero Waste conference at UN Complex

NEMA DG accompanied by Ambassador, Subutay Yüksel, Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Kenya read the joint statement of the Government of Kenya and Türkiye on declaration on Zero Waste.

The statement further affirmed the Governments of Kenya and Turkey and their commitment to tackling this critical issue by drawing upon each other's expertise and strategies and working together to promote zero waste and environmentally sound and responsible waste management practices.

Through the establishment of a shared vision and partnership to overcome this challenge, we encourage other governments and stakeholders to support the progressive transition towards zero waste.

NEMA DG was representing the Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry CS, Hon Soipan Tuya.

In its seventy-seventh session, the United Nations General Assembly unanimously adopted a resolution

submitted by Türkiye, along with 105 other countries – including Kenya – encouraging the implementation of zero-waste initiatives at all levels.

In this case, the two countries appreciated the need for the member states recognizing the importance of collaboration in passing this Resolution.

The Governments of Kenya and Türkiye urged all stakeholders to build upon this momentum by engaging in activities aimed at raising awareness of national, subnational, regional and local zero-waste initiatives and their contribution to achieving sustainable development.

Through this initiative, Kenya and Turkey will work with the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to generate and disseminate knowledge, best practices and technology in collaboration with stakeholders – including other governments, the private sector, academia, philanthropists and civil societies.



NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS accompanied by Ambassador, Subutay Yüksel, Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Kenya reads the joint statement of the Government of Kenya and Türkiye on declaration on Zero Waste during the event at UN Complex, Nairobi

NEMA cracks down on plastic bags offenders



NEMA's Titus Simiyu accompanied by other officers carts away some of the paper bags nabbed during an enforcement in Busia from a shop.

BY S. IRUNGU, J. OCHIENO & A. KAMIRI

In 2017, Kenya through a gazette notice No. 2356 issued by Cabinet Secretary then banned the use, manufacture and importation of Plastic bags.

The plastic carrier bags that were banned included carrier bags and flat bags with or without handles, these are bags commonly known as “Juala” that are used as secondary packages for items in shops, markets etc. and flat bags used for carrying items outside industrial setting e.g. groceries, garbage, are banned.

To address the challenges of primary packaging and handling the waste, the authority came up with exemptions for flat bags used for industrial primary packaging where the product is direct contact with the plastic and is done at the source.

The National Environment Management Authority has been enforcing the ban since then with regular enforcements. This year, the Authority kicked off a national wide enforcement on the banned plastic bags in month of February.

The Authority seeks to wipe out any elements among the public still using the plastic bags which are major pollutants of the environment.

Pursuant to Section 144 of EMCA, any person who contravenes the provision of the gazette notice shall be liable to a fine of not less than two (2) million Kenya Shillings, and not more than four (4) million Kenya shillings, or imprisonment of a term of not less than one (1) year but not more than four (4) years or to both such fine and imprisonment.

The exercise also targeted facilities that have not applied for Effluent Discharge License (EDL) as provided for under the Water Quality Regulations 2006. All unlicensed and illegal effluent discharges leads to pollution of the environment. Essential, any facility that produces any waste water is mandated by the regulation to clean such waste before it is released into the environment.

“There will be no more warnings, no orders, we are going for prosecution in courts for the offenders using

the banned plastic bags. EMCA stipulates heavy fines for the offenders. Kenyans should stop using the bags,” NEMA Ag. Deputy Director field operations Titus Simiyu pleaded as he led an operation in Busia County where 6 traders were arrested with the banned bags.

NEMA appeals to the public countrywide to desist from using banned plastic bags so that we can all live in a clean and healthy environment as envisioned in the Constitution.

In Eldoret, our officers unearthed a syndicate of major supplier of the banned plastic bags in various parts of the country including Nairobi. This was done through one of the suspect who was arrested in possession of the bags inside a mini-supermarket. He volunteered to take the officers to the supplier in exchange for his freedom.

The supplier goes by the name Akley Bakers. NEMA environmental inspectors backed by the local police and NEMA’s police laid a dragnet for the suspect.

However, the suspect got wind of the plan from sympathetic neighbours where she is believed to have a major store. Some of her accomplices were arrested. The officers are in pursuit of the supplier who remains at large.

In Kisumu, 8 traders with 16,000 pieces of the banned plastic bag in Ahero, Kisumu County. The traders will appear in court to answer to the charges.

In the Counties of Narok and Nakuru 15 people were arrested using the banned bags. They were arrested in Ololunga, Molo, Nakuru Town and Narok Town.

Speaking during the enforcement, Director Enforcement, Salome Machua said the crackdown was prompted after it emerged that some regions were notorious for the use of the banned plastic bags. “We know there are people who have been supplying these bags but I want to warn the traders against the use of the bags. We shall keep arresting the traders until they stop purchasing the papers from the suppliers, Ms. Machua said.

The Authority also conducted inspection to ascertain compliance with Effluent Discharge License as stipulated in the Water Quality Regulations 2006 in facilities within Kisumu County.

A Hotel proprietor was arrested for contravening the provisions of the regulations. Essentially, facilities are required to treat their waste before releasing to the environment to limit environmental related pollution.



NEMA officers taking a count of the polythene bags nabbed during an enforcement exercise in Kisumu

Plant at least 30 trees annually, public urged



NEMA Chairman Emilio Mugo (R) is assisted to plant a tree by NEMA officers – CDE Kiambu, Stephen Wambua, Director Enforcement, Salome Machua and Deputy Director Education and Awareness, Dr. Catherine Mbaisi

BY JOSEPH M. MWANGI

The World International Day of Forests was held at Kereita forest in Kiambu County. This was a move to embrace the day which was themed forest and health. The event was graced by several dignitaries which included the Principal Secretary of Forest Mr. Ephantus Kimotho, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) representative Madam Carla Mucavi and the Board Chairman, NEMA Mr. Emilio Mugo among other dignitaries.

The Principal Secretary Mr. Kimotho said that it is wise to work closely with the private sector using the full government approach. This can be implemented by the green army project of adopting of a forest. By adopting of forests, the private sectors are called upon to purchase seedlings from the Kenya Forest Service and later fence the area after planting.

The private sectors were also urged to involve the youths as they implement such exercises. “Planting should not be done as a Corporate Social Responsibility but rather do it as a sustainable measure for the natural capital forest” said Kimani.

In the issue of financing Kimani said that they will involve international partners such as the United Nations (UN) and FAO.

NEMA Board Chair, Mr. Emilio Mugo stated that the authority has created a more symphonic and joint relationship with the County Governments to enhance environmental management in the Country and service delivery and insisted onto the government initiative of the national 15 Billion tree planting and growing campaign.

Mucavi highlighted that forest is an essential component because it is almost one billion people around the world depend on it as a source of food, by harvesting fruits, nuts, meat insects and even herbs which are used as medicine. She also added that from the year 2015 to 2021 a lot of forest was lost due to human activities.

The event was commemorated by a tree planting exercise in the forest contributing to the Panda Miti initiative that aims at planting at least 15 billion trees by the year 2032. The initiative has an app which can be easily downloaded on an Android that helps on to identify the favorable plant species to plant at a particular place and also keep track of the total number of trees planted by one person. The app is also easy to navigate without any assistance. With every individual planting at least thirty trees in a year it will amount to three hundred trees in the next ten years for every person.

NEMA, ELC Magistrates training



The ELC judges, NEMA Staff during the Conference at Prideln

BY AGNES KAMIRI

NEMA, in collaboration with Kenya Judiciary Academy (KJA) held a continuous education training on Environment and land for ELC magistrates on sustainable waste management for a clean and healthy environment on 27th February, 2023.

The training was a 3 day event. The theme of the training is: sustainable waste management for a clean and healthy environment: the role of the judiciary in improving solid waste management in Kenya.

The objective of the training was to create a platform for exchange of ideas and sharing of experiences that will shape the arena of environmental law and help in attaining the sustainable development goal. This training was a milestone in cementing the gains made as far as the collaboration between NEMA and the Judiciary is concerned.

Proper waste management is still a big challenge in Kenya. Without proper controls, waste is dumped recklessly, causing serious harm on health of the population and polluting the country, the soil and nearby rivers. The Judiciary has a role to play in ensuring environmental management and attainment of sustainable development is achieved. The Judicial process is therefore key in the implementation, development and enforcement of environmental law.

Members of the judiciary as well as those contributing to

the judicial process at the national, regional and global levels are crucial partners for promoting compliance with, and the implementation and enforcement of international and national environmental law.

The Director General NEMA was represented by Ms. Linda Kosgei, Ag. Director Legal Services. In her remarks, she called upon the Judiciary in the quest for enforcing sustainable development policies owing to its crucial role in dispute resolution and interpretation of laws. She said that the partnership between NEMA and the Judiciary, has seen major milestones which can be attested by the quality of decisions on environmental issues churning out of the Environment and Land Court.

The training was also attended by Hon. Justice (Dr) Smoking Wanjala, the Director, Kenya Judiciary academy and Supreme Court Judge, Hon. Justice Oscar Angote, Presiding Judge Environment and Land Court, Francis Thoya, the Deputy Governor, Mombasa County, Dr. Stefanie Rothernberger, Director Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Rule of Law Program for Anglophone sub-saharan Africa, Dr. Lange, Project Coordinator, Africa Environmental Health and Pollution (AEHPMP).

In his remarks, Justice Smoking Wanjala said that the judiciary is the oracle of the constitution and therefore there is need for the judiciary to support NEMA in terms of enforcement.

National World Water Day Celebration in Samburu County

BY ANTONELLA DOKHE

This year the National World Water Day celebrations was held in Samburu County guided by the theme: 'Accelerating Change'. The theme emphasizes the acceleration of change in aspects relevant to the availability of clean water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), in line with the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 6 (Access to safe, adequate and reliable water supply).

Water security is under threat worldwide, making it increasingly difficult for billions of people to access safe drinking water, for businesses to operate, and for farmers to grow crops and raise livestock. These challenges endanger health, prosperity, stability, and resilience to climate change.

The event won't have come at a right time when the country is grappling with one of the worst drought in four decades escalated by increasing desertification and climate change, causing uncountable losses of properties, livelihood and lives.

Several permanent rivers have dried up for the first time since existence e.g. River Chania. The ASAL counties including Samburu have been the worst hit with the epidemic and there has been call to invest in water harvesting, ground water harnessing, climate smart agriculture, conservation and management of natural resources i.e. forest, catchment areas, wetlands, rivers etc.

The Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation took the lead role in organizing the event, which is held annually worldwide. This years' celebrations took place at Lodokejek Primary School within Kirisia division of Samburu Central sub-county in Samburu County. The event was a culmination of various build up activities that had been executed in a span of about two month.

The celebration was marked by several events including exhibitions from relevant partners, government agencies and stakeholders; entertainments from nearby learning institutions and local groups; commissioning of various water and water related projects; awards; inspection of various projects in the county; tree planting and speeches from key speakers.

In marking the day, a total of 8,000 trees and fruit tree seedlings were planted within the schools in the area. This exercise was in support of the national tree growing and restoration campaign that is ongoing and targeting to plant 15 billion trees by 2032.

Project inspected & launched by the PS include Borehole, water storage and reticulation, one-acre demo farm under drip model irrigation, sanitation facilities for both children and teachers, renovation of schools' infrastructures.

In his speech the PS stressed on the government's commitment to improved water accessibility (connecting 200,000 people to water and 350,000 to sewerage systems annually throughout the country.) in line with SDG 6. He mentioned the rolled out Government program dubbed Water 10,000 Programme (Maji Nyumbani Initiative) which is being implemented in the short, medium and long term to ensure universal access to water and seeks to connect five million households with clean and safe water.

NEMA's effort of protecting and conserving the water resources in the country and fragile ecosystems. NEMA policy direction is that all projects listed in the 2nd Schedule to comply with EMCA, 1999 and subsequent regulations and the office will be keen to ensure the project implementation adhere to the provisions.



CDE Samburu & RDE-RV & NRB region at the event

Go Green, Plant Trees

BY J. MAINA & P. MWANGI

Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry Cabinet Secretary, Hon Soipan Tuya led a tree planting exercise in Kona Baridi, Ngong Hills Forest Block in Kajiado County where 300 trees were planted.

The CS took the opportunity to inspect and monitor the performance of the 5,600 trees planted during President William Ruto's 56th birthday and the launch of the National Tree Growing Restoration Campaign.

In her remarks, the CS fortified Kenyans to note the President's call for every Kenyan to plant at least 300 seedlings at an individual level towards achieving 15 billion trees by 2032.

"Beyond the gazetted forests, I want to tell our farmers and people living within community lands that they can derive their livelihoods from growing trees and economic returns as it is stated in the Kenya Kwanza manifesto which talks about People, Environment and Profit", the CS said.

CS Soipan acknowledged the good work done by the Kenya Forest Service and the Community in ensuring that the 5,600 trees planted had survived.

"When we put our efforts and have a very comprehensive plan around our tree growing then we are going to achieve our objective 15 billion trees", the CS said. The CS said that the government is committed to attain 30% tree cover by 2032 and the

Ministry is collaborating with all the stakeholders to ensure the government's target is met.

"I encourage the Ngong people to continue nurturing the trees to ensure that the forest integrity is restored for the mutual benefit of the current and future generations" the CS said.

"Over the next 10 years' employment will be created in seedling production, tree planting and maintenance, forest rangers & foresters, Community Scouts and maintenance of forest resources" the CS stated. She further invited the community to change their mentality on tree growing and support the government in the 15 billion trees campaign.

Deputy Governor of Kajiado Martin Moshisho said Kajiado government has declared a total crack down for charcoal burning and was totally in support with the conservation of the Environment.

Pakistan Higher Commissioner to Kenya Ms. Saqlain Syedah said she will adapt an ecosystem where she can rally her community and her office to plant trees and conserve the environment.

The tree planting event was attended by NEMA Director General, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS Kajiado West, MP Hon. Sunkuyia George, various CEOs and representatives from SAGAs in the Ministry.



CS Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Hon. Soipan Tuya planting a tree as other dignitaries look on during the event. NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS was in attendance.

Operationalization of Adaptation Villages

BY AGNES KAMIRI & HARRON WANJOHI

The NEMA NIE secretariat held a two-day meeting with CDEs from counties implementing the Adaptation fund project. The meeting in Machakos held on 6th-7th March 2023 aimed at validating the operationalization and sustainability strategy for the adaptation villages.

An Adaptation village is a resilience building infrastructure premised on the need to avail systematic support for learning technology transfer and skills development for purposes of driving climate change resilience at community level.

The Authority has designed adaptation villages that consist of a solar powered borehole with an overhead water storage tank, a community water kiosk, cattle troughs, sanitation facilities, basic training hall and a fenced demonstration farm.

Through the adaptation villages, community resilience to climate change will be enhanced through availability of water for domestic and livestock use as well as training on livelihoods diversification and relevant technology transfer to help communities cope with the impacts of climate change.

The projects are located in remote rural settings across the counties where the Adaptation Fund project is being implemented. Some of the Counties that host the adaptation villages include Taita Taveta, Garissa, Wajir, Kitui, Machakos, Kilifi, Laikipia, Kajiado, Kisumu and Homabay.

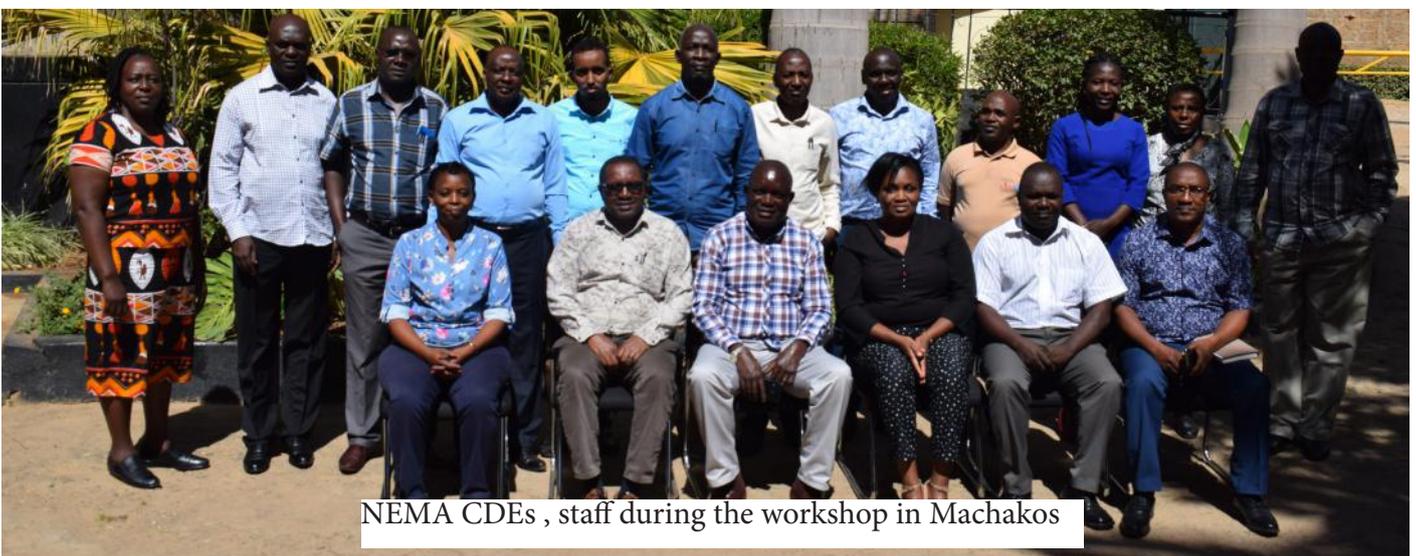
The Adaptation and sustainability strategy aims at ensuring that the resilience building assets developed by the project continue to offer benefits to the communities after NEMA's exit later in the year.

The Adaptation villages will continue to serve as centers of community outreach, learning and technology transfer in climate change adaptation. The facilities will also be used by both the National and County Government and other development actors in the localities for community outreach, information dissemination, community training and technology transfer.

Speaking during the workshop, the NIE Coordinator Ms Wangare Kirumba urged the County Directors of environment present to support the authority in ensuring seamless management of the assets after official handover. The CDEs will work with relevant county level stakeholders to deliver training to elected project committees to ensure proper management of the assets at the local level.

The adaptation villages have come in handy in supporting pastoral livelihoods in remote rural settings in far flung areas such as Lollol and Gutale villages both in Goreale Ward in Lagdera Constituency where over 5000 animals come to water daily. Other far-flung adaptation villages include the Sala and Shariffa sites both in Bananey Ward and the Waregadher site in Habaswein, Wajir County.

This programme has been a huge success to NEMA and indeed to the entire country, and has benefited the vulnerable communities who are susceptible to the adverse impacts of climate change.



NEMA CDEs , staff during the workshop in Machakos

Impacts of Quarrying in Kenya

BY MACHAKOS TEAM

With increasing urbanization, demand for properly worked construction materials has increased. In modern times, the stone is gaining more popularity as opposed to traditional materials such as timber.

Being classified as one of the Asal areas, the area is highly suitable for industrial development. Machakos is well endowed with a natural stone reserve with various uses. Quarrying and mining activities earn a good profit margin, attracting more county investors. Industries such as Bamburi cement, Mombasa Cement and Simba cement have their bases set up in Machakos due to easy access to raw materials.

With quarrying, heavy machinery and heavy traffic are used, causing an increase in local noise, pollution and erosion. For instance, constructing one kilometre of road ten meters wide can use approximately 500 to 600 Lorries of crushed stone, which causes a lot of dust impacting the environment. While quarries can significantly impact the environment, with the right planning and management, many of the negative effects can be minimized or controlled.

Land damaged by industrial or other development is incapable of beneficial use without treatment. Rehabilitation of ruined lands requires strict laws under which they are allowed to open provisions for land reclamation. The Kenyan Government has put in place measures such as the Mining act, which requires one to fill up and secure all shafts and remove all notices to the satisfaction of the relevant authorities.

The role of NEMA is to safeguard environmental assets and opportunities upon which people depend on. To ensure safe environmental practices in quarry areas, NEMA uses licenses and environmental audits to manage this site. An operating license provides conditions within which a quarry should operate while ensuring all conditions necessary for setting up a quarry site are met. On the other hand, an audit monitors the progress of the quarry during the operation phase as well as adherence to environmentally safe practices.

Before licensing a quarry to operate, among the most important aspects to look at include;
Environmental impacts both positive and negative as

well as their mitigation measures. The environmental management plan which shows how a facility plans to keep the environment healthy. The project decommissioning phase which shows how the area will be rehabilitated after completion of the project.

As NEMA monitors the environment, it also puts an effort in ensuring the project is acceptable to the community by engaging them through comprehensive public participation forums, barazas and filling of questionnaires. This does not only reduce negative conflicts but also ensures the community is aware of the impacts and the measures they can take if the facility does not abide by the NEMA guidelines.

Poor environmental management within the quarrying industry has a wide range of impacts that affect the current population and reduce sustainability for future generations. On the other hand, good ecological management promotes a healthy environment and a positively growing economy.

Understanding the essential role of the extractive industry and its contribution to society is an important part of the education process. It is equally important to recognize and increase understanding of the industry's negative and positive environmental impacts and understand management techniques to mitigate the former and enhance the latter.



PICTORIALS



CS Environment, Hon. Soipan Tuya, CBS accompanied by NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS visited the NEMA booth during the Loop conference at RadisonBlu Hotel

CS Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Hon. Soipan Tuya, CBS, Chairman of NEMA Board, Mr. Emilio Mugo (R) and NEMA DG, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS display the 19th cycle of PC after signing at Ministry Headquarters



NEMA chairman, Emilio Mugo (R) with NEMA and KFS staff during the international forest day at Kereita forest



NEMA's Anne Theuri, Elmi Isack cutting a cake with Stephen Katua to celebrate his retirement from the Authority during a meeting at MovenPick Hotel



NEMA DG Mamo B. Mamo, EBS accompanied by Ambassador, Subutay Yüksel, Embassy of the Republic of Türkiye in Kenya reads the joint statement of the Government of Kenya and Türkiye on declaration on Zero Waste at UN Complex



NEMA staff during the CDEs annual meeting in Naivasha

NEMA DG, Mamo B. Mamo, EBS speaking during the WTO Conference in Geneva, Switzerland. The DG called on the WTO member states to support efforts to identify effective international policy to address plastics pollution looking at the entire lifecycle of plastics promotion of more circular plastic economies and also reduction of carbon footprints of global plastics as part of wider efforts to decarbonize global economies.



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