# Turkana County Newsletter

## *'The Origin of Mankind'*

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## Turkana Leaders Condemn Rising Insecurity in Turkana East

Political leaders have condemned the killing of two civilians and injuring of two others at River Kanakuto, in Kapendo/Napeitom ward in Turkana East.

The individuals who were travelling from Nakuru through Kapedo to Lokori on two trucks, were attacked by bandits who killed two of them on the spot and injured the rest.

In a press statement issued on 24th September, 2018,Governor Nanok asked,"how many more innocent lives have to be lost in Kapedo for the situation to be deemed critical enough to warrant genuine action"?

Speaking during the swearing-in of the County's first Attorney and Chief Officer of Health and Sanitation,Governor Nanok strongly condemned the killings saying the bandits are deploying new tactics of attack as the travellers had no livestock as to the norm.

*Governor Josphat Nanok condemns recent Kapedo killings during a function at his offices.*

Turkana County Senator Malachi Ekal said the county is under siege from all the borders yet the National Government has deployed more security officers in the region.

He therefore urged the national government to send troops to the area lest the community decides to stand and defend themselves

Speaker of the County Assembly urged communication companies to boost network in the region as this will enable faster communication during raids and other cases such as rape and hence faster response.

## Turkana County Attorney and Chief Officer sworn in.

Turkana County Attorney General and Chief Officer for Health and Sanitation were sworn in by Lodwar Chief Magistrate on Tuesday 25th September, 2018 at the Governor's offices.

Mr. Erastus Ethekon was sworn in as the first County Attorney and is expected to start working immediately to represent the County on legal matters.

*Mr. Ethekon takes oath of office*

Speaking during the swearing-in ceremony, Governor Nanok said the office will help in representing the county on matters law.And the expenditure incured to hire private lawyers for representation will drastically come down.The Attorney's office will also be useful in formulating new laws .

On the other hand, Dr. Robert Abok will be working as the County Chief Officer for Health and Sanitation. Leaders urged him to improve Lodwar County Referral Hospital so that the locals don't travel to Eldoret or other hospitals for further treatment.

*Dr.Abok celebrating during his swearing-in.*

Other political leaders including the County Assembly Speaker Ekitela Lokaale and other members of parliament present during the function congratulated both Erastus Ethekon and Robert Abok on their new positions and welcomed them to the county.

## Turkana Governor Appoints County Audit Committee

*Governor Nanok/file*

Governor Nanok has appointed the County Audit Committee.

The appointment contained in the gazette Notice No.8388, he says the appointment of the seven audit members will help foster transparency and accountability of public funds so that they are used for intended purposes and are wisely spent.

"In exercise of the powers conferred by section 73(5) of the Public Finance Management Act 2012, the Public Finance Management (County Government) Regulations, 2015, I appoint the persons whose names appear below to be members and secretary of the Turkana County Audit Committee"

1. Selina Lokope – Member
2. Lomobong Moses Lokopu – Member
3. Edwin Owiti Omindo – Member
4. Columbus Lokwei – Member
5. Shemmy Ebulon Ekuwom – Member
6. Emmanuel Lochor Imoni - Member
7. Michael Otieno Ng'oma – Secretary.

The Turkana County Audit Committee will be in office for a period of three years with effect from 2nd May, 2018.

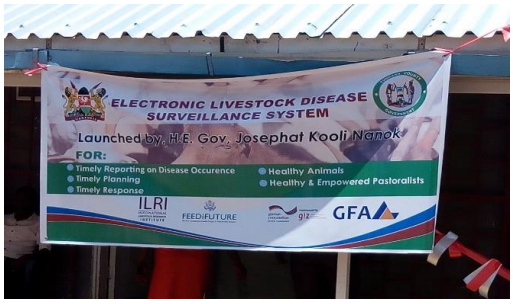
## Governor Nanok launches the first of its kind Livestock Electronic Surveillance System

Turkana County Governor Josphat Nanok has launched a livestock electronic surveillance system, as the first of its kind in the Ministry's Veterinary Department, which was set up in all the seven sub-counties in view to support early detection and response to livestock disease outbreaks.

*Governor Nanok cuts the red tape to mark the launch of the livestock E- surveillance system that will help in timely reporting and response on disease occurrence.*

Speaking during the launch, Nanok said his government has set aside 40 million shillings this financial year (2018/2019) for the construction of county laboratory for confirmatory diagnosis of reported cases and 2.5 million which will be used for carrying out livestock disease surveillance.

He said the syndromic surveillance system is be operational which will be key in generating weekly and monthly reports from Community Disease Reporters(CDRS). Agro-vets and meat inspection reports will be generated from the servers and submitted to relevant departments for response and action.




*Development Partners have played key role in setting up and operationalizing the livestock e-surveillance system.*

Nanok, however, emphasized the electronic surveillance system should aid in timely response to outbreaks thus minimizing spread and mortality of livestock.

On the same note, the Governor appreciated the concerted efforts by the Department team to respond to five emergencies supportive treatment in which Kibish, Loima and Turkana West, a total of 778 households benefitted and 199,197 livestock treated and vaccinated.

## Turkana County receives a boost in Extension Services after GIZ Donates a Motor vehicle and four Motorcycles

Turkana County Ministry of Agriculture Pastoral Economy and Fisheries has received a boost after GIZ-a German Development Organization donated a motor vehicle and four motorcycles

"A vehicle and four motorcycles will help in overcoming mobility challenge which has been a major hindrance to successful supervision of extension services across the County".Chief Officer Joseph Ng'itira expressed.

He said the donation will be a big relief to Letea and Kalobeyei wards in Turkana West where there are a number of substantive irrigation schemes.

The Chief Officer expects farmers in Turkana West to increase harvests as they will receive frequent supervison and close interaction from the Ministry's research and extension officers.

*Research and Extension Officers will be mobile in giving out timely advisory and extension services to farmers.*

The Chief Officer says the Ministry is also reaching out to other development partners in support in realization of extension services provision in the County.

Apart from Turkana West, Ng'itira says his Department will also be visiting other agriculturists in the Turkana East and South where there are existing irrigation schemes.

The GIZ also donated two motorcycles to the Health Ministry and two more to the County Commissioner's office.

## Women empowered to venture into Oil and Gas during the Gender in Oil and Gas Seminar

The Ministry of Water, Environment & Mineral Resources Turkana County hosted the second edition of Gender in Oil and Gas Seminar in partnership with Extractives Baraza and the Association of Women in Extractives in Kenya (AWEIK) to empower women to venture into different aspects of the oil and gas sector.

*Women taking a group photo with the minister for Water, Environment and Mineral resources Hon. Emathe Namuar during the gender in oil and gas seminar.*

Hon. Nanok through his representative the Minister for Water, Environment and Mineral resources Hon. Emathe Namuar recognized the fact that oil and gas industry lacks women and still faces challenges in attracting and retaining women employees, therefore convened the gender in oil and gas seminar so as to build on efforts to remove barriers that hinder or discourage women from rising through the ranks of leadership roles.

*Minister for Water, Environment and Mineral resources Hon. Emathe Namuar speaking durina the seminar.*

Some of the issues brought up by the women include: lack of access to funds, non-payment for services delivered and sexual harassment. The women were then taken through these thematic areas on how to handle to handle

The outcome of this workshop was to have a follow up seminar to give business training to the women. This training will be facilitated by Kenya Pipeline Training Institute and Turkana University College has offered to provide space. This is in line with the Ministry's plans of capacity building of locals in the various thematic areas of the extractive sector to enhance the social and economic livelihood.

## Dialysis Cost and Travel Distance Reduced to zero in Turkana County

Turkana Deputy Governor Peter Lotethiro has launched five dialysis machines at the Lodwar County Referral Hospital on 27th September 2018.

"The witness of the launch of dialysis machines being put into use in Turkana for the first time, is in itself history. Patients requiring these services in the past had to travel to Eldoret referral hospital or other neighboring counties and this had proved costly and time consuming.They had to travel for miles and spend 25,000 and 7,000 shillings for the referral and for each dialysis session respectively, now this have been brought to zero distance and zero cost".Lotethiro affirms.

*Deputy Governor Peter Lotethiro assures Turkana residents that dialysis sessions, at initial stages,will be free until universal healthcare programme is rolled out.*

The county referral hospital now has five dialysis machines, one of which will be used exclusively for isolation cases to cater for…

hepatitis patients while the rest will be for kidney complications.

The dialysis machines will cater for at least five patients each day where each session will take approximately three to four hours for each patient. This comes at a time where the county is experiencing increased cases of kidney failure and other related complications such as hepatitis.

*Mr.Felix Mutai a trained nephrotic nurse explains how the dialysis machine works during the launch.*

The dialysis at the initial stages will be done for free as the ministry of health prepares to roll out the universal healthcare program but most important the services will be available to both in and out-patients.

The machines were given by the national government under lease agreement.

Like the oxygen plant, dental clinic and CT-scan, Deputy Governor says, the renal dialysis unit will compliment the other critical services that will be not only locally available to Turkana but also to neighbours across the international borders.

## Embrace Community Policing in curbing rising insecurity in Turkana. Governor Nanok urges residents.

Governor Nanok said the insecurity cases in Turkana central has gone high this year , and the most affected is the women and girl child . He urged all the leaders and the community to be vigilant on this issue .

His excellence governor Nanok asked the security personnel to get together with the boda boda leaders in order to streamline the security cases and use of illicit drunks that has invaded the corridors of the county that has increase the number of street children and is the cause of all evil happening .

He said his government has created the protection center where this street children can be rescued and be engaged to various activities . but again he said the county government alone cannot be able to manage the protection center , it will require partnership with non-governmental organization.

The Governor emphasized on sanitization of all the sub county on this insecurity issues for awareness purposes because this will enlighten them on timely reporting of rape cases.

## Wakili Erastus Lokaale…

Mr. Erastus Edung Lokaale Ethekon is an Advocate of the High Court having been admitted to the Roll on 12th June 2003. He holds Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) and Master of Laws (LL.M), Master of Science (MSc) and Master of Arts (M.A) degrees and a diploma in law. Erastus is one of the few experienced Projects & Programs Portfolio Managers in Kenya with a Master of Science in Projects Management and has worked in the United Nations for 12 years in managing development projects and programs. Prior to joining United Nations, Erastus worked with the Ministry of Justice (Kenya National Commission on Human Rights) as Senior Human Rights Officer where he made significant contributions in research and legislative drafting and support to constitution of Kenya review process. Erastus has had so far an illustrious career in the international civil service in the UN as Chief Technical Advisor to the UN System on Area based development programs in Kenya; Program Specialist and Advisor to African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Programs Specialist with UNDP in governance, conflict management and peace building. He was rewarded with HSC for his contribution to governance and peace building in Kenya. Erastus is an Alumnus of Starehe Boys Centre & School. Erastus Ethekon is the current County Attorney for Turkana County.

## Daktari Roberts Abok…

Dr. Roberts Eloto Abok is a Medical Doctor with 15 years' experience and with Medical Board Recognition and certification as Specialist/Consultant in Obstetrics and Gynecology. He holds Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) and Mastership in Medicine (M.MED) - specialty -Obstetrics and Gynecology, Both qualifications from University of Nairobi. He has 15 Years work experience in Government, NGO Sector and the UN. His first posting in 2003 was in Nakuru Provincial Hospital. He thereafter worked in Lodwar District Hospital and Lopiding ICRC war Hospital as Medical officer. He has also been a Medical officer in charge - Lopiding Sub County Hospital, District Medical officer of Health-Turkana District, DMOH-Trans- Nzoia East and Kwanza Districts. After Completion of his specialist training, He worked in Kapenguria District Hospital as Consultant Obstetrician and Gynecologist .He thereafter was posted to Lodwar District Hospital to perform 3 functions - As Medical superintendent, As District Obstetrician and Gynecologist and as The District Medical Services Officer(DMSO) as overall in charge of Turkana District Level 4 Hospitals. Prior to rejoining public service, Dr. Abok worked with UNICEF Kenya Country Office as Health Specialist (Maternal New-born and Child health) across the 4 North Rift Counties in Kenya: Turkana, Samburu, West Pokot and Baringo. He also supported in the efforts to increase generation and utilisation of evidence in planning, implementation, monitoring and Implementation of MNCH programs in the county to help fulfil the realization of the rights of children and women to access affordable health care. He is also a registered member of AMREF Flying Doctors pool of Specialists, with a keen interest in Fistula work Dr. Abok is an Alumnus of Lodwar Boys High School, Lodwar Primary and Lokichoggio primary schools. His passion is delivery of tangible, sustainable results for women and children in the health sector. **Dr. Abok resides in Kanamkemer ward, Turkana Central. He becomes the current Chief Officer-Health and Sanitation.**

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