



REPUBLIC OF KENYA HOMA BAY COUNTY GOVERNMENT



GENOWA WEEKLY ROUND-UP

Friday 14th Aug. 2026

1. **H.E. the Deputy Governor Danish Onyango** was sworn into office, marking a new chapter in the leadership of Homa Bay County. His assumption of duty signifies a renewed **commitment to serve the people with dedication, integrity, and a focus on development**. This occasion also saw the official swearing-in of the new County Executive Committee Members: **Hon. Isaac Victor Ongiri**, who will oversee **Governance, Administration, Communication, and Devolution**, and **Hon. Elijah Obiny Dede**, responsible for **Trade, Industry, Investment, and Cooperatives Development**. Their appointment is a testament to the county's commitment to effective and responsive governance. As we move forward, let us work together to realize the vision of a prosperous and resilient Homa Bay County, driven by unity and a shared commitment to the welfare of our people.
2. **H.E. Governor Gladys** presided over the launch of the **Kenya Presbyopia Program** a **groundbreaking primary eye care** initiative aimed at bringing **screening, diagnosis, and prescription glasses** within reach of every household in the county. During the event, the Governor emphasized the importance of accessible eye care services and the need to build a culture of routine eye check-ups. The program will be rolled out across all **health centres, dispensaries, and outreach programs** in partnership with **Lwala Community Alliance, Livelihood Impact Fund, Fred Hollows, Kenya Society for the Blind, the Ministry of Health, and the Council of Governors**. This initiative represents more than just providing glasses; it is a commitment to early detection, prevention of avoidable vision loss, and ensuring our people remain healthy, productive, and independent. Together, we are taking a significant step towards safeguarding the vision and well-being of our community.



3. **H.E Governor Gladys Wanga** led the inauguration of **Kibuogi Primary School ECD Centre on Kibuogi Island**. This momentous occasion marks a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to bring development to every corner of the county, particularly to areas that have often been overlooked. Under her leadership, we have constructed **eight new centres in Kaksingri West ward**, including **Got Kombuto, Kianyumba, Mukende, Kinyasaga, Msare, Roo DOK, and Gov. Awiti Kisenye**. From **Nyakoria to Kibuogi**, our mission remains unwavering: to ensure that **every child in Suba South and Suba Central** has access to a decent environment for learning, playing, and growing. The opening of the **Kibuogi Primary School ECD Centre** is a testament to our collective commitment to fostering growth and development in our community. Together, we are building a brighter future for our children and our county.
4. In collaboration with **Nyabondo Mission Hospital, Christian Blind Mission (CBM), Homabay County Disability Forum, and the National Council for Persons with Disability (NCPD), the SHINE PROJECT** is making significant strides to improve services for persons with disabilities (PWDs). The initiative conducted mass medical assessments, corrective surgery assessments, and provided therapy services to PWDs in **Rachuonyo North Sub County**. On **Wednesday, 12th August 2026, at Rakwaro Chief's Camp in Rachuonyo North Sub County**, a total of **66 assistive devices** were distributed to individuals in need. These efforts are aimed at increasing access to healthcare and assistive technologies for PWDs, ultimately supporting their well-being and integration into society.
5. **The Department of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock Development**, in collaboration with the **State Department for Industrialization**, distributed **67 boxes, equivalent to 1,005 kg, of Bt Cotton Seeds (C569) worth Ksh. 3.7 million** to farmers and cotton cooperative societies across the county, enough to cover **approximately 500 acres**. The intervention is a significant boost to **H.E. Governor Gladys Wanga's Pamba Mwandu Initiative**, which is driving the revival of cotton production, farmer empowerment and growth of the cotton value chain. Farmers were also equipped with best practices to enhance productivity and yields. The milestone comes as our Agricultural sector continues to shine, with the latest survey ranking the **county first in Nyanza and sixth nationally in agricultural performance**, a strong affirmation that the County's sustained investment in agriculture is delivering results.



6. We hosted a significant **two-day closure meeting under the Ungana Programme**, a key initiative of the **Global Labour Programme–Inclusive Futures**. The event organized in collaboration with **Sightsavers, the Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU), United Disabled Persons of Kenya (UDPK), and the Homabay County Disability Forum (HCDF)** brought together representatives from local **Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPDs)**, as well as leaders of **sorghum farmers from Ndhiwa, Rachuonyo North, Rangwe, Suba North, and Suba South Sub Counties**. During the meeting, participants deliberated on strategies to strengthen local OPDs and discussed the importance of sustainability as the project approaches its conclusion. A key focus was on empowering farmers through improved value chains and fostering inclusive economic growth. The discussions highlighted the need for collaborative efforts to ensure long-term benefits for persons with disabilities and the broader farming community. As a result of the fruitful deliberations, the participants agreed to establish **an association and a SACCO**, which will affiliate with relevant trade unions. These new entities are expected to enhance sorghum farming and other agricultural value chains, ultimately boosting the economic empowerment of inclusive farmers in the region. The initiatives mark a significant step towards fostering sustainable livelihoods and inclusive development in Homa Bay County.
7. **The Department of Social Services** in partnership with **Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and Nyabondo Center for Persons with Disabilities**, successfully concluded a two-day training session. The training focused on empowering **Organizations of Persons with Disabilities (OPD) leaders and Community Health Promoters (CHPs)** on early identification and referral of persons with disabilities, as well as understanding the roles of CHPs in disability management. This initiative aims to improve access to education, medication, and assistive devices for PWDs, ensuring that no one is left behind in the community. The program underscores the county's commitment to inclusive development and support for persons with disabilities.
8. The ongoing **School Health Integrated programme (SHIP)** in Homabay has reached a significant milestone, with **31.7%** of its target population already screened. The initiative aims to serve a total of **9,113 individuals**, including **learners, teachers, and support staff**, to promote early detection and treatment of visual impairments. This effort is part of a broader strategy to integrate eye health into community health services and raise awareness about preventable blindness. The two-day inception meeting, brought together key stakeholders—including Heads of Institutions and the Board of Management from 29 schools to discuss the progress and future plans of the SHIP. Supported by **Sightsavers**, the programme seeks to strengthen school-based health services and foster community engagement around eye health issues. The meeting successfully enhanced awareness, fostered community buy-in, and facilitated coordination among the workforce involved. Participants also gained vital knowledge about eye health, laying a strong foundation for accelerated efforts to incorporate visual screening and eye health education into the society at large. The programme continues to work towards its goal of improving eye health outcomes across Homa Bay County.

