

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THE HANSARD

Tuesday 13th June 2024

The House met at 2:40 p.m.

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Ndunda) in the Chair]

PRAYER

PAPER

**REPORT OF TRADE, INDUSTRIALIZATION, TOURISM AND WILDLIFE
COMMITTEE ON THE 2024 ASK EASTERN KENYA BRANCH SHOW IN EMBU
COUNTY**

Hon. Moses Musa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am standing in for the Chair Trade. I beg to lay the following Paper;-

That, the Report of the sectoral Committee on Trade, Industrialization, Tourism and Wildlife Committee on its participation at the 2024 ASK Eastern Kenya branch show in Embu County at Njukiri showground, be laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday 13, 2024.

Thank you.

NOTICE OF MOTION

**ADOPTION OF REPORT OF TRADE, INDUSTRIALIZATION, TOURISM AND
WILDLIFE COMMITTEE ON THE 2024 ASK EASTERN KENYA BRANCH SHOW IN
EMBU COUNTY**

Hon. Moses Musa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following Motion; -

That, this Assembly notes the contents of the Report of the sectoral Committee on Trade, Industrialization, Tourism and Wildlife Committee on its participation at the 2024 ASK Eastern Kenya branch show in Embu County at Njukiri showground, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday August 13, 2024.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON STATUS OF THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROJECT (NARIGP) IN MURANG'A COUNTY AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2023

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion;-

That, this Assembly adopts the Report of the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on status of the National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP) in Murang'a County as at 30th September, 2023, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday August 13, 2024.

The National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP) is a Government of Kenya (GoK) initiative funded by the World Bank. The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to increase agricultural productivity and profitability of targeted rural communities in selected Counties, in the event of an eligible crisis or emergency, to provide immediate and effective response.

Madam Speaker, I go straight to status of NARIGP and that is as at last year September. Murang'a County is one of the 21 counties in Kenya implementing National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP). The project is in five sub-counties namely Kigumo, Kahuro, Maragua, Mathioya and Kandara. Out of the 35 wards in Murang'a County, NARIGP is implemented in the following 20 wards: Ichagaki, Kimorori/Wempa, Nginda, Kamahuha, Makuyu/Kirimiri, Ng'araria, Ithiru, Muruka, Kagundu-ini, Ruchu, Murarandia, Mugoiri, Wangu, Kinyona, Kangari, Muthithi, Kigumo, Kiru, Kamacharia and Gitugi.

Murang'a County Government received with much appreciation, the NARIGP programme which has made a lot of impact in the wards especially in the agricultural subsector. The NARIGP project has a total allocation of 1.1 million out of which the total disbursement so far is 921,343,765 which includes a counter funding of Kshs179,000 from the County.

Several projects have been undertaken in 20 wards, however, dissemination of information on implementation status of the donor funded program has not been forthcoming especially to the County Assembly. Which was actually one of the challenges we noted during our report writing.

Madam Speaker, the objectives of this status were;

1. To scrutinize the NARIGP project implementation status.

2. To consider background information of NARIGP with a view to reporting on compliance with donor conditionality's.
3. To consider the challenges encountered in the implementation of NARIGP.
4. To make relevant recommendations to the County Assembly.

That was the reasons as to why we are bringing in the status of this project. Because Members have this document on their table, they can see the implementation status per sub counties and wards which is in page 12 of the document that I am reading. You can see your wards in the implementation status of NAGRIP project, so I do not need to go through that.

Madam Speaker, let me speak a little bit on page 22, the National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project which is, we are now calling NARIGP as NAVCDP which is the new program we are undertaking as Agriculture Committee and as agriculture in Murang'a County so instead of calling it NARIGP we are calling it NAVCDP is a Community Driven Development Project that seeks to increase market participation and value addition for targeted small-scale farmers in Kenya who are engaged across 33 counties.

The NAVCDP will build on the foundation set by two existing World Bank funded projects namely, the National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP), it is a combination of NARIGP and the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP), and will mostly focus on a subset of farmers drawn from these two projects. It is like an update or an upgrade of the NARIGP that we had.

Madam Speaker, let me go straight to the Committee observations and recommendations of the Report that we are discussing today. The Committee observations were as follows; one, that the County Executive had not sensitized the residents properly on the advent of the NARIGP program in Murang'a County thereby denying many residents a chance to participate in the program. Now the program that has just ended, the NARIGP. So, there was that challenge that we, as a Committee, observed. Members of the public from Murang'a County were not even aware of this projects that are happening. Number two, that Members of County Assembly (MCAs) were not involved in picking opinion leaders during Participatory Integrated Development Process (PIDP), formation of Community Driven Development Committees (CDDCs) and identification of Producer Organizations (POs). That was another challenge or an observation we noted.

Number three, that the County had, in the past, delayed in disbursing counterpart funds for the NARIGP as contained in the agreement between the County and the National Government on

implementation of NARIGP in Murang'a County. So many delays of the money. Number four, there were no regular reports on NARIGP projects implementation submitted to the County Assembly by the County Executive department of Agriculture and the County Project Steering Committee (CPSC). Number five observation, some projects that had not accessed subsequent funding because they had not raised the required contribution for them to access the funds. Number six, the County Government had, to a greater extent, complied with NARIGP conditionality. However, we had those observations.

Madam Speaker, so that this does not reoccur that we have a new project by the name NAVCDP, these are some of the recommendations that we gave. Number one, the County Government should, in future, put in proper mechanisms to ensure timely absorption of the disbursed funds by the identified groups. Number two, the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) in charge of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries should, in future, ensure proper dissemination of information regarding programs that require the participation of the Members of this House and the public so that the deserving and interested residents are not left out of such programs. Number three, in future the CECM in charge of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries should ensure full involvement of the MCAs and in this I insist elected Members of this Assembly in launching of various programs in the wards, being that they are the opinion leaders and representatives of the electorate and also for their information.

Number four, that the CECM in charge of Agriculture and the NARGCDP County projects co-ordinator should ensure that NARGCDP is implemented transparently and effectively so that the identified beneficiaries can accrue to residents of Murang'a County. Number five, that the County Executive Committee member (CECM) in charge of Agriculture and CECM in charge of Finance And Economic Planning should ensure that all projects are implemented and completed, where there are justified reasons, extensions should be sought to complete the project outside the project implementation period. Number six that the CECM in charge of Finance and Economic Planning should ensure timely disbursements of counter funds as per the operational agreement between the Murang'a County Government and the national government so as not to compromise on the implementation of NARDCDP now the new project. So, Madam Speaker, that is it and I hope I was loud and clear, I request members to support this. I can see my vice have arrived, let me ask my vice to stand and second this Motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Gathe Wa Njeri: I second the Motion and request the members to support the Motion, I commend the work done by the members, the project was benefitting a few wards, now that we will have NAGCDP which will be going through the wards we request the improvement of the members in the programme so that as a Committee we will have an easy time on knowing what they want. I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Morris Ngunu: Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise to support the Report, the Motion concerning NARIGP project Madam Speaker I need to confirm that NARIGP project started in the previous regime, the previous government which I was part and parcel of it. Madam Speaker I want to congratulate the Committee for a comprehensive Report they have done and indeed the itemization of each and every costing per ward and per project per ward is well done.

We are now getting into a new project called NAVCDP and borrowed from the previous project challenges Madam Speaker, as I was saying the previous project for NARIGP heads up the current project and one of it that was very well pronounced is the issue of corruption. There was massive looting of public funds in as far as the NARIGP projects is concerned. I want to use my ward as a case study example whereby we have some representatives who are still answering questions on misappropriation of funds in some of the procurement that was previously done. And there was a lot of conflict of interest, some of the procurements that were done they were never delivered and I think with the current able Chair, I can only beg the Members of this County Assembly now that enough NAVCDP project is cutting all the wards Members to be very vigilante in; one selection of Members who will be representative of the project that is the---we call them CDDC (Community Driven Development Committee), thank you Chair for reminder, the CDDC Committee is a key and important component in the running of NAVCDP project.

Number two, Madam Speaker, is for the elected members of each and every ward to ensure what is being procured is what is delivered. I can only request through the Chair of Agriculture Committee to involve this Assembly, inform the members on the progress of this project so that as an oversight body of this Assembly, members can be able to follow on what is happening. I would request Madam Speaker, even when it comes to capacity building trainings, let the Committee of Agriculture be involved, so that from the onset they can be able to

understand end to end flow of the project, the progress that is ongoing in our wards, and that is the only way we can be able to ask questions on the matters that are ongoing in our wards.

Otherwise, Madam Speaker, I support the recommendations that have been given and I support the Motion.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta): The mover you can respond

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you very much for the support, Hon. Morris and supporting the Motion and I have noted with a lot of seriousness your concerns, that we should not carry forward the challenges of a NARIGP and issues to do with corruption, procurement that were used to be done but were not delivered, I have noted that.

Selection of the CDDCs and I thought the selection was already done and I think I posted Madam Speaker in the group so that members can follow. Then about the capacity building, whenever there is capacity building with issues to do with NASCDP that the Agriculture Committee, members should be involved. I have noted that and I will ensure that happens.

Madam Speaker, Agriculture Committee being one of the very Committees and of course all other Committees are very important, I think I am ready to really ensure that I do follow up. The challenges I have noted with the Committees in especially in terms of communication, we were not getting communication and information in good time. I am really pushing that Madam Speaker, and even tomorrow as I urge my members to attend the Committee, we have the discussion on *Inua mkulima*. So, any member who is not satisfied with how the *Inua mkulima* program has been done in their wards, you are welcome into our Committee.

So, members I really thank you and plead with you, and ask you to support this Motion so that we can be able to move ahead. Now with the NASCDP, I am sure that members we will have very few complaints, if at all we will have any. Thank you very much Madam Speaker and I ask members to support the Motion.

(Question put and agreed to)

[SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER]

PAPER

THE MURANG'A COUNTY LAND ALLOCATION AND LEASE MANAGEMENT
REGULATIONS 2024

Hon. Mark Wainaina: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly; -

That, the Murang'a County Land Allocation and Lease Management Regulations 2024 be laid on the Table of the Assembly today, Tuesday, 13 2024. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Grace Nduta): Hon. Members, there being no other Business, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

The House rose at 3:10p.m.