
REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MURANG'A COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 22nd February 2023.

The Assembly met at 2:45 p.m.

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu) in the Chair]

PRAYER

PAPERS

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR MURANG'A MUNICIPALITY FOR THE QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 31 2022.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg to lay the following Paper:-

The report and financial statements of the Murang'a Municipality for the quarter ended December 31 2022, be laid on the Table of the Assembly today Wednesday, February 22 2023.

Thank you.

(Hon. Charles Machigo laid the Paper on the Table)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): I am Madam, not Sir. Next order.

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM (ASDSP) AS AT DECEMBER 31 2022.

Hon. Morris Ngunu: Honourable Speaker, I am a member of the Agriculture Committee, I beg to lay the following Paper:-

The Report of the sectoral Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries on the status of the Agricultural Development Support programme (ASDSP) as at December 31, 2022.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Next order.

NOTICE OF MOTION

REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM (ASDSP) AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2022.

Hon. Morris Ngunu: Thank you Madam Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Motion;- That, this Assembly adopts the Report of the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, on the status of the Agricultural Development Support Programme (ASDSP) as at 31st December 2022, laid on the Table of the Assembly today Wednesday, February 22, 2023.

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hannah Wairimu): Next order.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE ON THE STATUS OF THE NATIONAL RURAL INCLUSIVE GROWTH PROGRAM (NARIGP) AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2022.

Hon. Morris Ngunu: Thank you Madam Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion;

That, this Assembly adopts the Report of the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, on the status of the National Rural Inclusive Growth Programme (NARIGP) as at December 31, 2022, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday, February 21, 2023.

Madam Speaker, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee is committed towards enhancing the development of the agriculture sector through oversight and legislation. While performing its oversight role, the Committee engaged the agricultural development partners that operate in the County to identify the status of the programs that are appropriated money through the county budget. The National Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP), is a donor funded project from the World Bank and operates in various counties to support rural agricultural activities for growth.

Madam Speaker, during the engagement, the Committee was able to capture details on its operations and the current status as indicated in the observations of this Report. Further, the

Committee has made various recommendations for better implementation of the program going forward. Madam Speaker, the Report is with us in our files I request to go directly to the findings.

NARIGP is funded by both the National Government grant and counterpart funding from the County Government. The table in our Report indicates how the program has been funded over the years. Madam Speaker, in the Report we can see the year 2017/2018 the allocated funds was Kshs50 million, the County contribution was Kshs5 million amounting to a total of Kshs55 million. The table is listing all the other years up to 2022/2023, where the allocated funding for 2022/2023 is Kshs335,683,961, the County contributed Kshs204,587,241.82 totalling to Kshs540,271,202.82.

Madam Speaker, the total funding that we can say that has come from NARIGP, both the allocated funding and the contribution from the County is Kshs1,634,521,979.

Madam Speaker, I want to go directly to the challenges that the Committee was able to identify. One was COVID19, number two was delayed disbursement of funds-counterpart and donor. Sometimes the County contribution would get delayed either from delayed disbursements from the treasury, exchequer or prioritization of the funding to other emergency priorities like COVID19. Number three is delayed payment to the youth, agripreneurs and VMGs involved in SLMs activities.

Madam Speaker, this happened and I can categorically talk about last year where the local youth who were involved in labour works; the workmanship like building the water pans and all that, the payments were delayed but later on after engaging the NARIGP, they were able to be paid.

The achievements of the NARIGP program, we can talk of four trophies in four years of implementation. Our County has been profiled very positively in how they have been implementing the NARIGP project to a point of even winning a silver trophy. The last two years they had bronze, meaning the NARIGP secretariat we can say they have put our County in a very good position in the map of our country.

Number two is inclusion in to the next project dispensation, which is 2023 to 2027. This is borrowed from the proper implementation of our project and accountability making the World Bank to include us in the next project coming in 2023 running all the way to 2027.

For better implementation of the program, the Committee recommends as follows; one, that the CECM should in future ensure proper dissemination of information regarding programmes that require the participation of members of public, so that the deserving and interested groups are

not left out from such programmes. This is not limited to including the Members of County Assembly who have a more frequent and a direct contact with the public, especially when they would want to do sensitization, orientation of the projects that they would want to carry out in our wards. It is very important and worth noting that the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) concerned with the project should work hand in hand with County Assembly Members.

The second recommendation is that in future the CECM in charge of Agriculture should ensure full involvement of elected Members of the County Assembly in launching of various programs in the ward, being the opinion leaders and representatives of the electorate and also for their information. I think I clarified well on what that point was all about.

Number three, the CECM Finance should ensure timely disbursement of counterpart fund as per the operational agreement between County Government and National Government so as not to compromise on the implementation of NARIGP.

Number d, the County Government should address its revenue performance to ensure the approved budget is fully financed. This should go hand in hand with the process of budget making by this County Assembly, so that we can be sure that the contribution that is coming from the County Government is well captured in our appropriations budget early enough to avoid such delays.

Number e, The County Government should identify and address issues causing delays in implementing development projects.

Number f, the County Government should ensure that relevant and regular reports of the NARIGP projects are submitted to the County Assembly Committee of Agriculture and provided to the relevant stakeholders detailing the relevance of the project, level of achievement of the projects, impact and sustainability among other items. Madam Speaker, I want to call upon Member for Mugoiri to second the Motion.

Hon. Kamwaga Mwangi: Thank you Madam Speaker for this opportunity. I stand to second the Motion. I have the following to say about NARIGP. NARIGP being a grant to our County Government, it has really supported our farmers by making sure all the common interest groups come together and do their projects together by supporting them and even giving opportunities to the vulnerable like the youth, women, widows, orphans and the likes.

As we have heard from the mover of the Motion, I encourage the County to continue supporting NARIGP by giving the required support e.g., by providing the laws that are required

and maybe when they come to us, when they want to start these projects in our wards, we are supposed to give them all the necessary support that they require. I want to stop there and encourage the Members to continue supporting NARIGP. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Honourable Members, the Floor is open for debate. Yes Hon. Kamunyua.

Hon. John Munyua: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that I am not Hon. Kamunyua, I am Hon. John Kamau Munyua representing the people of Gaichanjiru. I hope that is noted and should be in record.

I want to say a few things, I can see as the Mover has said about the totals. Can you check your 2018/2019, the totals are wrong. Correct that and also, I have noted my ward Gaichanjiru, nothing was done last time, for those last five years using these funds. I think it should be shared equally. Let us not see where others benefited and others were left out. They went on to note it in the recommendations but that must be noted. In future let the revenues be shared equally. Everyone should be involved because they are saying some were not involved. I hope our majority; that should be ensured; that everyone in the House should be involved in this planning about these resources. But it is a good idea. The mover should also explain, what these trophies are. Was there a competition? What is it? Kindly, explain. It is a good Report and it should be adopted with those amendments. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Honourable from Mugumo-ini ward.

Hon. Wanyoike Alex: Madam Speaker, much as I would wish to support this program and the status and the Report; I wish to draw your attention to item number 3.4 that is NARIGP implementing sub-Counties and ones in Murang'a County. When I look at this, I do not know whether it was done by mistake that the County of Murang'a has a good number of sub-Counties; there is Mathioya, Kahuro, Kigumo, Kandara and Maragua and the list is ended there. I do not trace Gatanga there, there is nothing Gatanga and to go to the details even the wards that comes from Gatanga. This program, the benefits that we are reaping from them are immeasurable, they are good and we should encourage the programme to continue within our County.

But this skewed method of taking the benefits from certain communities and taking them again to other communities or leaving intentionally some of the sub-Counties and wards, I think it is really unfortunate. I stand here therefore, much as I would support this within the recommendations now propose that we include next time Gatanga sub-County and the wards that comes thereof, be also involved in the program. I rest my case.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Honourable Pauline.

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Thank you Honourable Speaker, congratulations for sitting on that hot seat indeed you are doing it well. I rise to (*inaudible*)sorry for that. I rise to of course support this Motion because I mean well for Murang'a people. Unfortunately, I do not understand what we are talking about ... (*inaudible*).....As I said I rise to support this Motion because I mean well for the good of Murang'a people that I highly support and because of this government that nominated me to this position. Unfortunately, I do not understand what is being spoken of. Whatever we are discussing I am hearing as if it is Greek, apart from understanding that Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and knowing that we are discussing about Murang'a and for the sake of Murang'a, I have to support this but I do not know what will happen in this House. I do not know whether I am the only one, and that is why I have risen to speak about this.

I think we should be getting these Reports prior just the way we get Order Paper. I do not know whether I am in order or that is how we are should be doing things. I am a very active Member in debate even in high school I was a very active member, unfortunately most for the things we discuss on this Floor I do not get to understand. I do not know whether we should be bringing people from these Committees to discuss ...

(Hon. Charles Machigo rose on a point of order)

Hon. Charles Machigo: Point of Order Madam Speaker. Is it in order for this Member to criticize the document which she has not stated whether she is supporting or opposing? Can she state clearly whether she is supporting or ...

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Madam Speaker can I speak?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): You state whether you are supporting or opposing.

Hon. Pauline Njeri: Madam Speaker, I am very clear Honourable Member Machigo, I am very clear that I am supporting this, not the document but the content. I am actually supporting this. I am supporting the sectoral Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Report on the status of the National Rural Inclusive Growth Program, whichever into bracket. I do not even know that but I support this. I am clearly stating that I do not understand what we are discussing, but just because of Murang'a people I have to support this. I am therefore asking humbly that we be getting these Reports prior ...

(Hon. Charles Machigo rose on a point of order)

Hon. Charles Machigo: Is it in order for a Member to contribute something that she even don't understand what she is contributing? I stand to be guided Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Okay, let us be in order. Honourable Member Pauline, first you read and understand the Report. Let us continue. Honourable Member from Nginda ward.

Hon. John Mwangi: I stand to support the Motion and I have two comments. The National Agricultural and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NARIGP) has been very helpful in my area, Nginda ward. I have a very huge project of water, Ikundu Water Project, but I may request us as Members of County Assembly (MCAs) to be included(*technical hitch*)The MCAs are not being involved. So, Madam Speaker, my request is when the next program starts, let all the MCAs be included when the projects are being forwarded. Thank you, Madam Speaker for that opportunity.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Hon. Munga.

Hon. Peter Munga: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Oh! Madam Speaker, sorry. I rise to support the Report or rather the document on NARIGP. It is a good program touching the common *mwananchi* (citizen) at our Wards. But, honestly, majority of us, I know of NARIGP but my colleagues like Munyua here do not know what NARIGP is. I understand there is a Committee, either at sub- County level or rather ward level that assists the NARIGP to run their projects. Majority of us do not know how those Committees came into place, which role or who are the Members of those Committees. Therefore, it is my recommendation that, we should, I do not know

if it is the right term to say, we should be inducted with NARIGP to know how it runs and how it operates. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Hon. Machigo.

Hon. Charles Machigo: Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this Motion. First, I congratulate the Committee for the good work that they have done this being the first Assembly and a transition Assembly where we are trying our best to catch up with a County which has been running without order.

I thank this Committee for the way it went through this program of NARIGP, and we congratulate this Committee for coming up with such a very nice Report within a very few days. As well, I urge Members these recommendations this Committee they support them and the entire Report so that the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) can now be guided on the approach of working together with these development partners and many other so I urge this Committee to continue with the same spirit and, also, the other Committees to read from this Committee because from the onset or the beginning of this Assembly, Members have noted our Committee on Agriculture has brought so many Reports regarding the work we are doing out there.

I urge all the Members of the other Committees to act in speed so that we can also go on bringing policies for the operation of our County. Thank you and I urge Members to support this Motion.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Hon. Sharleen.

Hon. Sharleen Wambui: Thank you so much Hon. Speaker, I rise to support this Motion because, as I was doing my due diligence about the particular topic we are talking about, I noted with a lot of concern that it has really helped the youth within Murang'a County. As I was reading the Report, 885 youth in Murang'a benefited from this program and the target was around 1000 of them. So, I believe that as we continue supporting this Motion, many more youth in this County are going to benefit from this process. The youth that really benefited went into goat rearing, chicken farming, grocery, and barbering. I ask my fellow Members in the Assembly to kindly act in speed so that we can adopt this Motion. Thank you so much.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Hon. Mirara.

Hon. Moses Musa: Thank you Hon. Speaker, first I would wish to congratulate you for the good work that you are doing. I rise to support this Motion, but I think most of the Members feel disfranchised because they do not know what the partnership of NARIGP and the County

Government involves. It is my call to this Honourable House or to our leadership of this House that we get inducted better so that the next time we do not feel disfranchised in contributing to such Motions as this, because according to this manual, we are seeing a lot of benefits that is getting to our people, to our communities. But, we would wish even to know what the Committee, I do not know what they have done in my ward. I do not know what projects they have undertaken from my Ward. I also need to know who are the Committee Members they have. In that, I support and wish to see it to that induction is done to the Members so that they become more versed to what the partnership is all about. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): I now call the Mover to respond to all the queries that were raised on the Table.

Hon. Morris Thuku: Thank you, Madam Speaker, I want to thank Members for showing support towards the Motion. Indeed, the Report and the recommendations from the NARIGP will go far in changing the livelihood of Murang'a people.

I want to start by responding to the question that many people have raised concern on how NARIGP works. It is worth noting that this is a project that is overflowing from a previous government that is the previous Assembly, and hence it is understandable many Members may not be fully inducted on how NARIGP works, maybe the criteria used to choose the sub-Counties and even wards.

Madam Speaker for the members to have a good foot hold on the upcoming projects, it is important for us as the leadership and also the Chair Agriculture, we are going to push for a meeting with the whole House so that Members can be explained on what is this NARIGP all about. Despite the fact that when we had a whole House meeting in Mombasa, my memory its serving me better there was a presentation by NARIGP though many members had not arrived in that meeting. However, it is worth noting that it is important for all of us to have a meeting with NARIGP and may be they do a presentation on some of the questions that are coming up.

I also want to thank Hon. Sharleen for pointing out on how much NARIGP has been able to change or to give support and opportunities to our youth. In fact, Madam Speaker, if we are to do human development index rating I think NARIGP is one of the projects that we can say, it has been able to directly and change the livelihoods of our people.

We look forward to future projects giving more opportunities and expanding the horizons on how many people are able to benefit from such projects. Thank you Hon. Machigo for noting out the need to support the project.

There was a point on inclusion by Member for Nginda and Madam Speaker it is worth noting that Hon. Mpesa my good friend, I admire his shirt though, Madam Speaker you need to make it clear whether it is part of your rules. That shirt is very good Madam Speaker. Do not rule me out of Order Madam Speaker but it is worth noting. He raised the point of inclusion which is part of our recommendation, it is very important to say Members need to be included in such projects and being one of our recommendations it is indeed going to reach to the desk of our CECM Agriculture. There was a point by member for Mugumo-ini on why Gatanga is missing and many other wards. That is a good question that we are going to tackle it during our whole House meeting. There was a presentation on why some of the wards are not capture in this project and Madam Speaker NARIGP stands a very good to chance to explain why some of the wards are missing.

However, to my understanding there was the issue of the value chains and you know Madam Speaker when you are getting a grant people it also comes with conditions. These are the areas I want you to handle, the value chains in terms of production line that the World Bank would want a specific County to touch.

It is also noting that NARIGP was also not a country wide project. There are some Counties that were also missing into this project, of which I know such question may arise, why did you skip our County. Same question that is cascading downwards to our Assembly. Why some of the wards were missing. Never the less, the project is coming to an end and it is worth, Members should be vigilant enough to ensure the listed value chains if in as far as they are in their own wards they should fight hard to ensure they are included in the future projects now that we are Members of the County Assembly.

Thank you, Hon. Munyua, Member for Gaichanjiru, the figures in deed are not correct, it should be Kshs65million. Thank you that is a very good observation that also passed my eye. So, the correction, we need to pass this Motion with a rider Madam Speaker, if these members agrees to pass it that in 2018/2019, the County contribution is not Kshs6.5million instead it is Kshs65 million.

The trophies Madam Speaker, this is a very good question, it takes me back to a question that was raised by a Member here during the debate of the Governor's speech. To respond to this,

the 28 Counties that benefited from the NARIGP projects did not implement their projects uniformly, there are those Counties that were slow in their procurement processes. There were those Counties that were slow in how they were awarding some of these projects, awarding and identifying, there are some Counties that were also not accountable to the monies that they were given. So the rankings was to showcase how many Counties or rather to rank the Counties on aggressiveness in implementation of this projects. Because, the project is really wide, it involved even identification of Common Interest Groups (CIG), identification of co-operatives, the way you are going to talk to your County Government so that they can provide the County contributions.

I understand there are some Governors in the previous governments that never recognized NARIGP, and any time the County contribution figure is brought into their table they would be reluctant to pass the amount, to give the amount so that NARIGP can also release their own grant. So in this case, the ranking was based on that.

Madam Speaker, allow me to go further in this Assembly, I understand all of us have community projects, not all of us are going to finish the projects within the same pace, some will complete their projects with two days, some will take 90 days, so ranking is important in all circles. So I want to congratulate the secretariat running NARIGP for ensuring that for the four years running, they have been able to bring the trophy to this County.

I urge all the Members to adopt this Motion for the purpose of moving forward. Thank you so much Members.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Hanna Wairimu): Honourable Members, there being no other business this House now stands adjourned until tomorrow Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

The Assembly rose at 3:29 p.m.

