



NG-CDF BOARD

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2025 ISSUE

QUARTER TWO

CLASSROOMS BUILT FOR *success*



**Maendeleo
kwa wote**

The National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF) is a decentralised fund established by the Government to promote socio-economic development at the grassroots level and address regional inequality throughout the country.

Editor's Note

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day in and day out." – Robert Collier

As we wrap up this incredible year, we can't help but celebrate the milestones that have defined our journey. This quarter has been nothing short of remarkable: packed with achievements that speak volumes about our collective effort and vision. From insightful financial reporting to the successful launch of key projects, a dynamic team building exercise that strengthened collaboration and resilience, a celebratory staff dinner party where top-performing staff received well-deserved awards for excellence, and even groundbreaking ceremonies that set the stage for future growth, every milestone tells a story of progress and possibility.

We also recognize the important conversations surrounding NG-CDF's legal framework. While the Fund has been navigating some legal challenges; the same has brought about an opportunity to strengthen the framework that shields' what we've built together.

In this edition, we've captured it all: the numbers that tell our story, the projects that showcase our ambition, and the moments that remind us why we do what we do. Every achievement is a confirmation of the diligence and teamwork that continue to drive us forward.

The coming year promises new opportunities to innovate, expand access to education, and deepen our impact at the grassroots. Together, we will rise above challenges and continue shaping Kenya's development story.

Here's to closing the year on a high note and stepping boldly into the next with renewed energy and vision.

The best is yet to come!

Brenda Onyino

A JOURNEY OF GROWTH AND IMPACT

From humble beginnings to a powerhouse of development, the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF) has continued to redefine community empowerment across Kenya.

What started as an allocation of **Ksh. 1.2 billion in 2003/2004** has grown exponentially to **Ksh. 58.797 billion in the current financial year (2025/2026)**.

Over the past five years, the Fund received a cumulative allocation of **Ksh.240.41 billion**, fueling projects that impact lives in every corner of the country. This growth has not only expanded opportunities but also introduced a more equitable distribution model.

Following the **2023 amendment to the NG-CDF Act**, budget ceilings now consider the number of wards per constituency, ensuring fairness and responsiveness to local needs.

Driving Development Where It Matters Most

Education remains the heartbeat of NG-CDF investments, commanding an average of **76.1% of allocations**. Through this focus, the Fund has:

- Established **3,123 new schools** since

inception, including **16 special needs institutions**.

- Constructed **26,614 classrooms, 1,906 administration blocks, and 1,269 laboratories** in just the last five years.
- Enhanced tertiary education by funding **606 lecture halls** and supporting technical training institutes.

Beyond education, NG-CDF has championed **security improvements, climate change mitigation**, and digital innovation hubs, creating a holistic development model that addresses both present and future needs.

Impact You Can See

These investments have transformed communities; reducing distances to schools, improving transition rates, and easing the financial burden on parents. The surge in classroom construction during 2023/2024, aligned with the rollout of Junior Secondary Schools, underscores NG-CDF's agility in responding to national priorities.

As we look ahead, NG-CDF's story is one of resilience and real commitment to grassroots development. Every shilling spent tells a story of hope, progress, and a brighter future for generations to come.



REGIONS ON THE RISE: NG-CDF's Nationwide Impact

From the sandy shores of the Coast to the bustling streets of Nairobi, NG-CDF has been the heartbeat of grassroots development; transforming education and empowering communities across Kenya. Over the past five years, the numbers tell a story of progress, resilience, and hope.

Coast Region has built **2,108 classrooms**, while **North Eastern** added **1,699**, ensuring learners in remote areas have access to quality education. **Western** and **North Rift** regions have surged ahead with **3,014** and **4,194 classrooms** respectively, while **South Rift** leads the pack with an impressive **5,051 classrooms** constructed.

In **Nyanza**, **3,629 classrooms** stand as a testament to the region's commitment to education, complemented by **Eastern's 3,019**

classrooms and **Central's 1,612 classrooms**. Even urban hubs like **Nairobi and Kajiado** have not been left behind, adding **1,084 classrooms** to cater to growing populations.

Beyond classrooms, NG-CDF has initiated thousands of schools from scratch, funded laboratories, dormitories, and purchased buses to ease access. Tertiary education has flourished with **KMTC campuses and Technical Training Institutes** springing up nationwide; creating pathways for skills and innovation.

This is more than infrastructure; it's a movement. A movement that bridges gaps, uplifts communities, and builds a future where every learner has a chance to thrive. NG-CDF is not just funding projects; it's shaping Kenya's destiny, one region at a time.

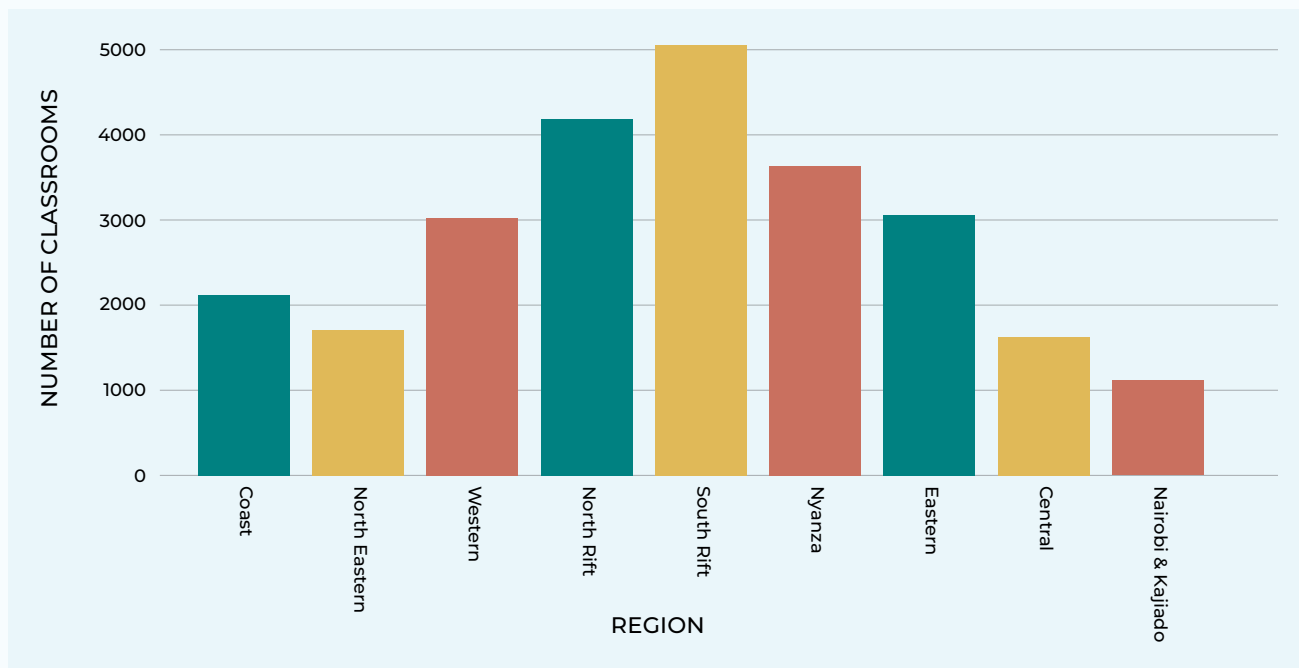


Figure 1: *Classrooms Constructed (2020-2025)*

A FUTURE FULL OF POSSIBILITIES

As we wrap up an incredible year of achievements, it is imperative that we reflect on remarkable events shaping the NG-CDF's future. While the Fund has been navigating some legal challenges; the same has brought about an opportunity to strengthen the framework that shields' what we've built together.

The High Court judgment in September 2024 brought about some constitutional issues surrounding the NG-CDF Act, effectively sending stakeholders to the drawing board. As a result, and as it has been, the Board has continued to defend the Fund, through a legal process and on December 01, 2025, the Board, alongside the National Assembly and supported by the Attorney General, appeared before the Court of appeal, wherein, the two appeals [by the Board and the National Assembly] were heard. The judgment is expected in early February, 2026. We remain optimistic that the return from the Court of Appeal will be positive, as it did in 2017 (in respect of 2013 Act).

Given the undeniable impact that the Fund has created over the years, and out of abundance of caution, the National Assembly has since passed a constitutional amendment [2025], with a view to securing the fund [among others]. This nascent, yet bold and progressive move, once finalized, will lead to the engraving of the Fund in the Constitution. This proactive step shows the unwavering commitment to ensure that the Fund continues to empower communities hence transforming lives.

This means that our work matters more now than ever. Every classroom built, every bursary awarded, and every technical institute established is proof that NG-CDF is not just a fund; it's a lifeline for millions. And that's why we keep moving forward, with confidence and purpose.

Let's stay focused, stay united, and keep delivering excellence. The future is bright; and together, we're shaping it.

IMPROVING FINANCIAL REPORTING & AUDIT QUALITY

Under **Section 81 of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, 2012**, all National Government entities must prepare annual reports and financial statements at the end of each financial year. Since **2013/14**, the Board has consistently submitted **292 financial statements** to the Office of the Auditor-General:

- **290** for constituencies
- **1** for the Fund
- **1** for the Board Secretariat

The latest audit report shows notable progress:

- **23 statements** received an **unqualified (clean) opinion**.
- **263 statements** had a **qualified opinion**.
- **3 statements** received an **adverse opinion**.
- **1 statement** had a **disclaimer of opinion**.

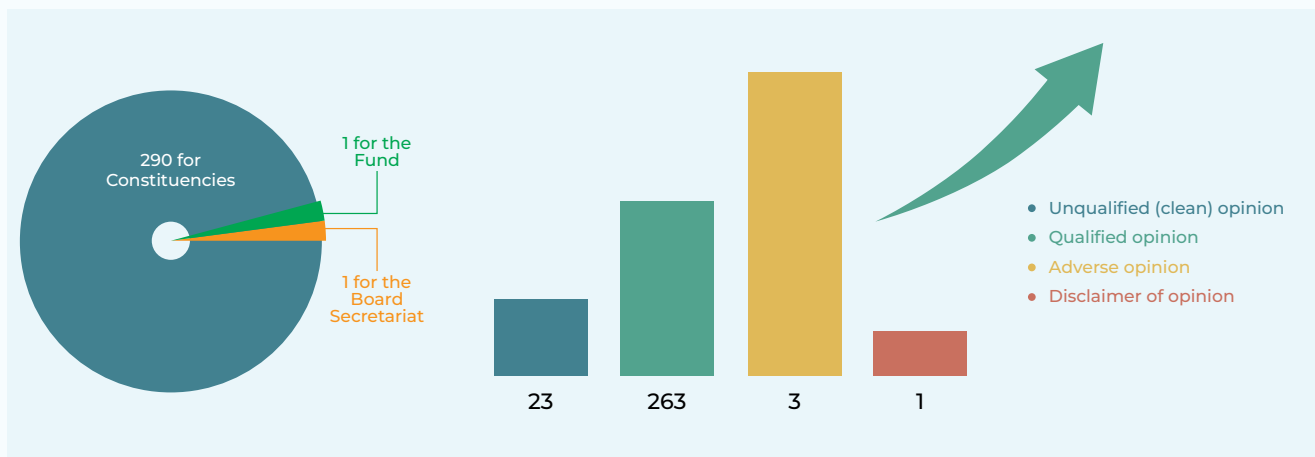
While achieving full compliance remains a challenge, the trend is encouraging. Unqualified opinions have grown from **15 constituencies in**

FY 2013/14 to 23 constituencies in FY 2023/24, while adverse opinions dropped dramatically from **71 to 3**, and disclaimers reduced from **71 to just 1** over the same period.

This improvement reflects several key initiatives:

- **Capacity Building:** Training Fund Account Managers, Sub-County Accountants, and NGCDF Committee Chairs.
- **Pre-Audit Reviews:** Constituency reports reviewed before Auditor-General submission.
- **Enhanced Oversight:** Stronger monitoring, internal audits, and system checks.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Collaboration with National Treasury, PSASB, Auditor-General, and FiRe Awards.

Overall, these efforts demonstrate steady progress toward transparency and accountability in financial reporting.





FiRe AWARDS 2023/24:

Kibwezi East Shines in Financial Excellence

At this year's prestigious **FiRe Awards**, Kibwezi East NG-CDF set the gold standard for financial accountability, transparency, and integrity; emerging as the **winner in the Constituencies Category** for outstanding financial reporting.

The FiRe Awards, East Africa's most respected recognition for high-quality financial reporting, celebrate organizations that uphold global best practices and foster public trust through

clarity in financial disclosures. The awards ceremony, held at the elegant Safari Park Hotel, brought together leaders committed to raising the bar in financial governance.

Kibwezi East led the pack, with Ikolomani taking second place and Cherengany securing third. Special commendations were also awarded to Kitui Central and Homa Bay Town for their exemplary efforts.

This achievement is a testament to the constituencies dedication to global reporting standards and unwavering commitment to transparency. By strengthening clarity and trust in public financial information, you are shaping a future of accountability for all.

We salute every team that participated for their discipline, effort, and pursuit of excellence. Together, we are redefining financial reporting in East Africa.



POWERING GRASSROOTS TRANSFORMATION THROUGH SMART INVESTMENTS

Across Kenya, NG-CDF continues to be a game-changer; driving sustainable development, equitable growth, and better livelihoods: at the grassroots. From modern classrooms to digital hubs, from bursaries to strategic infrastructure, the Fund is shaping communities and creating opportunities that last.

This quarter, we spotlight a major milestone in **Kipkelion East Constituency**, where a brand-new **15-room NG-CDF office** now stands tall. Built progressively over three financial years, this modern facility is more than bricks and mortar—it's a hub for efficiency, accountability, and service delivery. Spacious offices, improved accessibility, and enhanced coordination mean

better engagement with the community and faster implementation of projects.

The inspection visit, led by the **NG-CDF Select Committee Chairperson Hon. Musa Sirma**, Board Director Hon. Gabriel Kago, and technical staff, brought together local leaders and residents who celebrated this achievement. Their message was clear: NG-CDF is not just funding projects—it's building trust, strengthening governance, and transforming lives.

As we look ahead, these strategic investments reaffirm NG-CDF's commitment to **empowering communities, promoting equity, and laying the foundation for lasting prosperity.**





BREAKING GROUND, BUILDING FUTURES: BPDP is Transforming Classrooms Across Kenya

By Anita Jerotich

The National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF) Board is turning policy into progress and blueprints into bright futures. Through the Best Practice Demonstration Programme (BPDP), established under Section 16(f) of the NG-CDF Act, 2015 (amended in 2023), the Board is setting a new national benchmark for transparency, efficiency, and sustainability in grassroots project delivery, with education at its heart.

Endarasha Primary School, where Board Director **Hon. Naomi Masitsa Shiyonga** led a groundbreaking ceremony for **five modern classrooms** funded under the 2024/2025 BPDP cycle where she affirmed that **“Better facilities mean better learning outcomes and stronger communities,”**. Once complete, these classrooms will ease congestion, create a learner friendly environment, and unlock holistic development across the region.

In **Kieni Constituency**, hope took shape at

That same vision came alive in **Baringo North**





Constituency, where Board Chairperson **Hon. John Olago Aluoch, CBS**, together with Board Director **Hon. Gabriel Kago**, presided over the groundbreaking at **Chambai Primary School**. The project will deliver **two modern classrooms** and a **fully equipped administration block**, strengthening institutional management, improving service delivery, and creating an inspiring space for learners and staff alike.

In **Baringo Central Constituency**, momentum continued at **Bosin Primary and Junior School**, where the Board launched the construction of

six new classrooms under BPDP. This will create a conducive learning environment that boosts academic performance and fortifies school infrastructure.

Across these ceremonies, leadership and community stood shoulder to shoulder: Members of Parliament were present, security personnel, school administrators, pupils, and community members. Their collective presence underscored a shared conviction that education is the cornerstone of socio economic transformation.





KABUCHAI CONSTITUENCY SHINES WITH TRANSFORMATIVE NG-CDF PROJECTS

Principal Secretary Commends Government’s Commitment to Grassroots Development

Kabuchai Constituency is setting the pace for community transformation, thanks to the **National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF)**. In a recent monitoring visit, **Principal Secretary for Economic Planning, Dr. Boniface Makokha**, led a high-level delegation to review progress on flagship projects that are reshaping education and infrastructure in the region.

Dr. Makokha praised the government’s unwavering commitment to **equitable service delivery** through NG-CDF, noting its critical role in empowering communities and driving long-term socio-economic growth.

A highlight of the visit was the inspection of the **8-classroom storey tuition block at Busakala Primary School**, funded under the **2023/2024 Financial Year**. Once complete, this modern facility will serve over **400 learners**, easing congestion and creating a conducive environment for academic excellence. The project stands as a powerful

testament to the government’s dedication to **quality education and grassroots empowerment**.

The Principal Secretary was joined by key leaders, including **NG-CDF Board Chairperson Hon. John Olago Aluoch**, **KIPPRA Chairperson Prof. Paul Wachana**, and officials from the NG-CDF Board Secretariat. Together, they reaffirmed their commitment to transparency, accountability, and excellence in project implementation.

Key Highlights

- NG-CDF remains a **vital instrument for inclusive and impactful grassroots development**.
- The monitoring visit underscored the government’s focus on **transparency and accountability**.
- Collaboration between NG-CDF, local leaders, and communities continues to deliver **high-quality infrastructure**.
- The Busakala Primary School project will **enhance access to quality education** and improve learning outcomes for Kabuchai and beyond.



MALAVA ACHIEVES MAJOR EDUCATION MILESTONES: Building the Future, One Classroom at a Time

By Martin Mwema



Malava Constituency is making bold strides in education development through the **NG-CDF Best Practice Demonstration Programme (BPDP)**. In a landmark event, leaders commissioned a **fully equipped administration block at Ikoli Secondary School** and broke ground for **four new classrooms at Luhokho Primary School**—projects that promise to transform learning environments and improve access to quality education.

The ceremony, attended by NG-CDF Board Directors **Hon. Naomi Masitsa Shiyonga** and **Hon. Gabriel Kago**, CEO **Yusuf Mbuno**, Ikolomani MP **Hon. Bernard Shinali**, and other dignitaries, underscored the national significance of BPDP and its impact at the grassroots level.

What is BPDP?

Adopted in 2015 under Section 16(f) of the NG-CDF Act, BPDP channels up to **15% of the Board's expenditure** into high-impact, community-based projects that demonstrate best practice in planning, execution, and accountability. Since inception, the programme has invested **Kshs. 2.37 billion** in selected constituencies, **92% in education** and **8% in security**, delivering tangible results nationwide.

Malava's Success Stories

- **Ikoli Secondary School**
Completed in 2023/2024 at a cost of **Kshs. 8.93 million**, the new administration block replaces scattered temporary offices with a modern, centralized facility—enhancing coordination, record management, and service delivery for parents and stakeholders.
- **Luhokho Primary School**
Approved for **Kshs. 7.97 million** in 2024/2025, the construction of four classrooms will ease overcrowding, accommodate rising enrolment, and create a conducive learning environment that supports better academic performance.

These projects are more than bricks and mortar—they represent **hope, opportunity, and progress**. By strengthening school leadership spaces and expanding access to education, Malava is setting a powerful example of how disciplined planning and community-focused development can change lives.

“Education is the foundation of our future. Through BPDP, we are not just building structures—we are building dreams,” said NG-CDF CEO **Yusuf Mbuno**.



QUIET REVOLUTION IN TESO NORTH: THE STORY OF KOCHOLYA KMTc

By Anne Mwaniki



When Kocholya Kenya Medical Training College opened its doors in 2021, it did not arrive with noise or celebration. It simply appeared in a place where opportunities had been missing for years, and slowly began to change the rhythm of life in Teso North Constituency.

The journey began with NG-CDF purchasing 8 acres of land, and later adding another 0.75 acres. On this ground, a 3-storey tuition block rose, a building that instantly changed

what education looked like for the local community. It houses 7 classrooms, a library with 3 offices, a skills laboratory with 3 offices, an ICT hall with 2 offices, a staffroom with 5 offices, and a 24-door ablution block with 8 doors on each floor.

Then came the other facilities: a drilled borehole to secure water, fencing and a gate to protect the space, 6 pit latrines, and a dining hall that also holds 2 classrooms, 3 offices and a modern kitchen. The first intake in March 2021

had only 64 students, all from nearby villages and all on full NG-CDF scholarships. Many of them had never imagined they would attend a medical college. Some were the first in their families to step into an institution of higher learning.

Three years later, the story looks very different. The college now has 655 students from all 47 counties, and 171 of them receive bursary support from NG-CDF.





The institution has grown from offering 2 courses to 5, including Nursing, Clinical Medicine, Occupational Therapy, Health Assistant certificate and an upgrading diploma. This growth is supported by 8 teaching staff and 15 support staff who keep the campus moving every day.

Some of the students walking into Kocholya KMTC had finished secondary school as far back as 2007. Many had married early or spent years wishing for a chance to study. Despite good KCSE results, they had nowhere to go. The campus finally gave them a path back to their ambitions, and today they sit in classrooms they once thought were out of reach.

A total of 81 students have already completed their training and sat for national exams. Every graduation tells its own story, a family relieved, a dream restarted, a community encouraged.

The college has also become a place where students transfer to, not from. On average, 6 learners move from other KMTC campuses every year because they want to belong here.

Kocholya KMTC became the first public institution in the constituency, and its effects reach far beyond academics. The arrival of the campus brought electricity to homes nearby, boosted business in trading centres, and raised the value of land around the community. Most importantly, it allowed parents to keep their children close instead of sending them nearly 30 kilometres away in search of a career.

What began as buildings funded by NG-CDF has grown into something much deeper. The campus is now a place where dreams restart, futures take shape, and a community sees itself rising.



Chalbi Boys High School: A JEWEL SHINING IN THE DESERT

By Reuben Kamau

North Horr, Kenya, Nestled deep within the vast, sun-scorched expanse of North Horr; the largest constituency in Kenya; Chalbi Boys High School continues to stand out as a beacon of hope and academic excellence for communities across the remote Chalbi region.

The school, often celebrated as a jewel in the desert, has experienced remarkable growth in recent years. It currently serves 704 students, reflecting the community's growing confidence in the institution and its mission.

Established through the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF), Chalbi Boys High School has opened access to quality education for families who once faced limited or no options for secondary learning. What began as a bold vision has quickly evolved into one of the region's most impactful educational investments.

The results speak for themselves. Between

2019 and 2024, the school successfully sent 235 students to universities across the country, an outstanding achievement given the harsh terrain and isolation that define the area. This upward trajectory highlights the commitment of the teaching staff and the determination of students striving to transform their futures.

Beyond strong academic performance, the school has cultivated a safe and supportive environment where learners are encouraged to explore their talents, grow in confidence, and dream beyond the borders of the desert landscape. For many households, Chalbi Boys High School represents not just education, but opportunity, empowerment, and the promise of a brighter tomorrow.

As the institution continues to expand and inspire, it stands as powerful proof that with vision and support, even the most remote communities can shine brilliantly.



Breaking Barriers: How NG-CDF is Advancing Inclusive Education in Kenya

By Zainab Hussein

In Kenya, approximately 1.2 million children live with disabilities. Yet, statistics indicate that only about 300,000, roughly 25 percent, are enrolled in school. This stark reality leaves nearly 900,000 children out of the education system, primarily because many facilities remain inaccessible.

Classrooms accessed only by stairs, narrow doorways, and washrooms that cannot support wheelchair users continue to block meaningful participation. Research also indicates that learners with disabilities often score lower in national exams compared to their peers due to these environmental stressors.

The challenge is compounded in rural areas and for the girl child, where enrollment probabilities drop by 20 to 40 percent in regions such as the North Eastern and Western Kenya.

The National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF) is bridging this gap by channelling more than 72 percent of annual constituency allocations toward education infrastructure and bursaries. This funding has contributed significantly to upward enrolment trends and the enforcement of inclusive designs across all 290 constituencies.

A Transformative Legal Mandate: Persons With Disabilities Act, 2025

On May 8, 2025, President William Samoei Ruto, CGH, assented to the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2025, replacing the 2003 law. The new Act aligns Kenya with the Constitution, the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and global best practices. It protects rights, strengthens accountability, and advances dignity.

Key Provisions Impacting Education:

- i. Inclusivity:** Public institutions are mandated to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities. Notably, at least five percent of public service positions are reserved for persons with disabilities.
- ii. Accessibility Mandates:** Persons with disabilities have the right to barrier-free environments. This includes disability-friendly buildings, public spaces, and the provision of assistive devices that support mobility.

iii. Improved Quality of Life: The law aims to raise the well-being of persons with disabilities through stronger protections, targeted services, and robust support structures.

iv. Respectful Language: The Act enforces the use of respectful terminology that upholds dignity and reduces stigma related to disability and mental health.

v. Disability Mainstreaming: Government operations must integrate disability needs into all policies, plans, and daily activities.

The NG-CDF is at the forefront of operationalizing this Act. Importantly, each NG-CDF Constituency Committee includes at least one member representing persons with disabilities, ensuring representation, direct participation, and oversight in project identification and implementation.

NG-CDF IN ACTION: Infrastructure, Bursaries, and Outcomes

Across the country, NG-CDF is moving beyond basic compliance to deliver real accessibility.

- Recent findings by the NG-CDF Research Team confirm that the Fund has successfully constructed eighteen (18) fully funded schools specifically dedicated to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) across Kenya. Beyond these, standard NG-CDF projects now feature ramps, landscaped pathways, disability friendly toilets with rails, and adapted dormitories.
- Recognizing that getting to school is often the first barrier to education, the NG-CDF has intervened by funding PWD-friendly school buses. A standout example under the Best Practice Demonstration Programme (BPDP) is the provision of a specialized 46-seater bus for Mwakichuchu Secondary School in Voi Constituency.
- Complementing the infrastructure, targeted bursaries relieve financial pressure for families and support transitions

from primary to secondary and tertiary institutions. NG-CDF bursaries prioritize learners with special needs within vetted categories, ensuring no child is left behind due to lack of fees.

Real Impact: Beneficiary Stories

- In Mbeere North, NG-CDF is funding a specialized laboratory at Riandu School for the physically challenged. This facility ensures that science subjects often difficult to access in traditional setups, are fully available to learners with special needs.
- In Mvita Constituency, strategic upgrades have opened the doors to learners who had previously stayed home. Enrolment has increased as parents have gained confidence in the safety and accessibility of the school environment.
- Nyalenya Primary, Ugenya West Ward: Constructed multi-door classrooms and accessible ablution blocks tailored for special needs learners.

2025 & 2026 HORIZONS

Constituencies are showing rising interest in proposals that advance inclusivity. High priority areas for the upcoming project cycle include:

- Accessible ICT Hubs
- New school buses include PWD friendly provisions

- Separate PWD Washrooms with clear signage and safety rails.
- Expansion /renovation /construction of more PWD projects of to reduce long travel distances for learners in remote areas.

CALL TO ACTION

Inclusion starts with a proposal. Citizens are highly encouraged to participate in public forums and support disability mainstreamed project proposals. Let us ensure that the infrastructure we build today serves every child of tomorrow.



In Memoriam

A Champion of Ability Hon. Janet Marania Teyiaa (1980 – April 2025) NG-CDF Board Director & Former Kajiado County Woman Representative

Early this year, the NG-CDF family and the nation lost a Titan of inclusion. Hon. Janet Teyiaa was not just a policymaker; she was living proof that disability does not mean

inability. Struck by polio at the age of five and facing a community where disability was often viewed as a taboo, Hon. Teiyaa's story could have ended in isolation. Instead, supported by a social worker who saw her potential, she pursued education with a vigor that eventually took her from a classroom in Kajiado to the corridors of Parliament.

Serving as a Nominated MP (2013) and later defying the odds to be elected as the Kajiado Woman Representative (2017), she dedicated her life to fighting for the rights of the marginalized.

*In her final chapter of service as a Director on the NG-CDF Board, she was a fierce **advocate for the very inclusive infrastructure projects highlighted here.***

We dedicate our renewed efforts to her memory.

Rest in Power!

A season that tested Ol-Kalou constituency RAINS THAT EXPOSED A HIDDEN VULNERABILITY

By Yvonne Michuki

Ol-Kalou is admired for its cool climate and open fields, but beneath that calm lies a soil structure that gives way easily during long rains. With the constituency experiencing frequent heavy rains, the ground softened, shifted, and began to sink. Cracks widened, buildings leaned, and some sanitary blocks disappeared into the earth.

For many schools, life changed overnight. Classrooms became unsafe. Latrines caved in.

Kitchens flooded. The learning environment that every child depends on was suddenly in danger.

The Hidden Damage Beneath the Surface

At Kangathia Comprehensive School, the boy's latrine collapsed entirely in one night, leaving behind an open, dangerous pit. Learners had no choice but to share the remaining toilets.



Huruma Primary faced toilets damaged by floodwater and a kitchen that had been overtaken by mud.

Kieni Primary School suffered a collapse in the underground wall of the staff toilet.

The following primary schools; Mathakwa Mugumo and Kiganjo were dealing with sinking pits, cracked slabs and sanitation blocks that could no longer support anyone safely.

Mathakwa Primary School Before & After

BEFORE



AFTER



Mugumo Primary School Before & After

BEFORE



AFTER



Kiganjo Primary School Before & After

BEFORE



AFTER



In the case of Huruma Secondary School, the situation escalated beyond structural deterioration when a sudden fire outbreak destroyed a section of the classrooms and learning materials, leaving learners without a safe space to continue their studies.

Huruma Secondary School Before & After

BEFORE



AFTER



When hope hung by a thread, NG-CDF Oikalo Constituency wove it back;

When the extent of damage reached the NG-CDF OI Kalou office, the response was swift. This was no ordinary repair request. It was a safety crisis affecting children, teachers, and entire communities.

Assessment teams moved quickly from school to school. Contractors were mobilized. Work began without delay. Huruma's toilets were repaired.

Huruma Primary School Before & After

BEFORE



AFTER



Kieni Primary School staff received a stable two-door facility.

Kieni Primary School Before & After

BEFORE



AFTER



Mathakwa, Mugumo and Kiganjo were equipped with new sanitation blocks built to modern standards.

RESTORING DIGNITY AND STABILITY

The impact felt in every school compound

These interventions did more than rebuild structures. They restored confidence. Parents felt reassured. Teachers regained a sense of security. Learners returned to clean, warm, and safe spaces where they could focus again.

The rebuilt facilities were not only replacements; they were improvements! Stronger, safer, and better designed for the soil challenges that OI-Kalou faces year after year.

OI-kalao Constituency Moving Forward Prepared, Supported, and Ready for the Future

The rains exposed deep structural vulnerabilities,

but they also revealed the strength of a coordinated community response. NG-CDF OI-kalao Constituency acted when it mattered most.

It provided practical support, fast action, and long-term solutions that restored normalcy to the schools.

The journey continues with better monitoring, climate-conscious planning, and a commitment to keep every school safe, no matter how harsh the weather is.

This is the story of a constituency that refused to be defeated and of an NG-CDF OI-kalao team that stood firmly beside its people, ensuring that learning could continue in dignity and safety.



**SAFE SCHOOLS
& CONFIDENCE**



**COORDINATED
COMMUNITY
ACTION**



**STRONG,
CLIMATE-READY
FACILITIES**



**FUTURE-FOCUSED
PLANNING**

Transforming Education in Kitutu Masaba: CLASSROOMS BUILT FOR SUCCESS!

In Kitutu Masaba Constituency, education is taking a bold step forward thanks to the National Government Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF). Through this initiative, schools are being transformed into modern learning spaces that inspire excellence.

The NG-CDF has invested in building new classrooms, installing tiled floors and ceilings, and

equipping them with high-quality desks to ensure students have a comfortable and conducive environment for learning. These improvements are creating spaces where knowledge thrives and dreams take shape.

So far, several schools have benefitted from this ambitious program, including:



Nyariacho DEB Primary School



Nyakongo DOK Primary School



Riamachana DEB Primary & Junior School



Nyangorora DEB Primary School



Nyamwaga DOK Primary School



Sengereri DEB Primary School

These schools now boast modern classrooms that are ready for use, ensuring that students learn in a safe, clean, and inspiring environment. The transformation is a testament to the power of community-driven development and the commitment to nurturing future generations.

Kitutu Masaba is proving that when we invest in education, we invest in the future!

FROM TRACK TO TREE:

How NG-CDF's Sponsorship Has Forged a Sustainable Legacy at Chemususu Dam Half-Marathon

By Henry Gagi



The 10th Edition of the Chemususu Dam Half-Marathon in Eldama Ravine, Baringo County, was more than an athletic event; it showcased community development and environmental care, largely due to the active role of the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF).

The event on November 15, 2025 featured Wesley Kipkemoi defending his men's title and Beatrice Cheserek winning the women's race. It also provided an important platform for the Eldama Ravine constituency's development goals in the following key areas:

Climate Action: NG-CDF's commitment to the marathon stems from its growing focus, which

now includes reducing climate change and protecting the environment. During the media launch for the event, NG-CDF officials confirmed their participation and sponsorship, emphasizing their support for the national goal of planting 15 billion trees by 2032.

By backing the Chemususu Dam Half-Marathon—an event focused on environmental protection and community projects—NG-CDF turns a local race into a meaningful conservation effort. The marathon's proceeds are set aside for key projects, such as developing a running track, building new classrooms at Chemususu Primary School, and organizing an annual tree-planting drive of 20,000 trees.



Nurturing Grassroots Talent and Opportunity: In addition to its environmental mission, NG-CDF's involvement highlights its aim of empowering local communities. The half-marathon, with its significant prize pool and high participation, is a crucial opportunity for local athletes to display their skills.

Talent Spotting: The marathon allows athletes from underserved regions to compete without the financial burden of traveling to major city marathons.

Economic Empowerment: The event generates economic activity, with the overall winner earning KSh 300,000 from a KSh 1.57 million prize pool, driving growth in the Eldama Ravine area.

Infrastructure Support: The funds raised support local infrastructure, such as the planned running track, which benefits the community and nurtures future champions.

The success of the 10th Chemususu Dam Half-Marathon shows the impact of public-private partnerships. The Eldama Ravine MP, Hon. Musa Sirma, acting as the race patron, praised the organizers for creating hope and driving economic growth. NG-CDF's support, along with other corporate sponsors, illustrates a strong connection between national development funds, environmental goals, and the spirit of athletics. This collaboration ensures that the drive for development is as strong as the athletes competing in the race.



TEAM BUILDING, STAFF DINNER & AWARDS CEREMONY

On **19th December**, the NG-CDF family came together for a landmark event that blended team-building activities, a celebratory staff dinner, and the inaugural staff awards ceremony. This memorable day marked the first time in the history of NG-CDF that employees were formally recognized through an **Awards** program. This is an important milestone in strengthening workplace culture and celebrating excellence.

Building Stronger Bonds Through Teamwork

The day began with lively and interactive team building activities that brought together **Board Directors and staff** in an environment filled with energy, collaboration, and shared purpose. The activities were thoughtfully designed to foster unity and cross departmental camaraderie, fully aligning with the event's key objectives:

- **Fostering Team Cohesion:** Staff had the chance to engage in fun, collaborative challenges that strengthened relationships and broke down departmental silos.
- **Improving Communication:** Through strategic group tasks and open dialogue, participants enhanced their ability to communicate across organizational levels.
- **Strengthening Organizational Culture:** Shared experiences during the day reinforced NG-CDF's identity as a united, mission driven institution.

Honoring Leadership and Celebrating Excellence

As evening set in, the team transitioned to a warm, elegant dinner dedicated to honoring the **outgoing Board Directors**. This farewell moment served as a heartfelt gesture of appreciation for their service, leadership, and dedication to the institution.



The dinner also offered a formal platform for staff to be informed of the exist of some Board Directors, ensuring clarity and continuity as NG-CDF continues its mission.



The First Ever NG-CDF Staff Awards

The highlight of the evening was undoubtedly the **Awards Ceremony**, where outstanding staff were celebrated for their contributions, professionalism, and exemplary service.

This historic moment saw the introduction of multiple award categories, with the spotlight on the prestigious **Employee of the Year Award and Fund Account Manager of the Year**. The 2025 winners were:

EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR:		FUND ACCOUNT MANAGER OF THE YEAR	
Winner:	Victor Awino	Winner:	Joan Koech
1st Runners Up:	Zainab Hussein & Rahab Chege	1st Runner-up:	Christine Muyaka
2nd Runner Up:	Japheth Mokora	2nd Runner - up:	Adan Hassan

A Memorable Day for the NGCDF Family

The 19th of December will be remembered as a day that brought the NG-CDF community closer, honored its leaders, and celebrated the individuals who embody the institution’s

values. By combining fun, fellowship, and formal recognition, the event marked the beginning of a new tradition; one that will continue to uplift staff morale and reinforce NG-CDF’s strong organizational culture.



REIMAGINING THE NGCDF: Reforming a Proven Model, Not Replacing It

By Dr. Wilfred M. Buyema, PhD

Having previously worked with the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NGCDF) for about 14 years, I have witnessed firsthand how this homegrown model of community-driven development has transformed Kenya's local governance and bridged inequalities that once seemed permanent. Later, through my work on international programmes in humanitarian and development contexts, I have seen how other countries invest heavily to create mechanisms similar to what we already have — localized, participatory, and transparent funds that bring government closer to the people. That experience reaffirms my belief: the NGCDF does not need to be scrapped or devolved to counties; it needs to be strengthened, modernized, and better understood.

Since its inception in 2003, the NGCDF has evolved into one of the most impactful community financing models in Kenya. It was conceived to correct historical imbalances in development - ensuring that national resources reach all constituencies fairly, irrespective of ethnicity or political alignment. Over two decades, it has delivered tangible results: classrooms, health facilities, police posts, and countless bursaries that have changed lives. Yet, as the Fund matured, it also attracted criticism and legal contestation, culminating in the High Court's 2024 ruling declaring aspects of its Act unconstitutional.

The legal debates are valid - but they point to structural refinements, not a justification for abolishing the Fund altogether.

In development practice, reform is often more sustainable than replacement. In countries where I've observed similar community funding models — such as Ghana's District Assemblies Common Fund or India's Local Area Development Scheme — the success depends not on dismantling existing institutions but on improving governance, accountability, and public ownership. Kenya's NGCDF already has a robust legal and operational framework. What it needs is a deeper alignment with international programme management principles: results-based management, participatory monitoring, digital accountability systems, and transparent reporting.

From experience, one of the Fund's underrated strengths is efficiency. With administrative costs below 10 percent of total allocations, it stands in sharp contrast to many county-based initiatives that spend over 70 percent on overheads. This leanness should be celebrated and protected. Instead of transferring the Fund's functions to county governments - where bureaucracy often slows service delivery - Kenya can consolidate the NGCDF's structure as a national-local hybrid: centrally funded, locally implemented, and publicly monitored.

This model, if well-governed, reflects the very essence of subsidiarity promoted in international development discourse — bringing decision-making as close as possible to the people.

However, challenges persist, particularly in governance and public perception. The repeated court cases, often driven by activists and non-state actors, reveal genuine concerns about accountability and the separation of powers. But they also reflect a communication gap. The Fund's achievements are not well publicized. Many Kenyans associate NGCDF with politics rather than community empowerment. To rebuild trust, the Fund must make its impact visible — through annual public scorecards, digital dashboards, and constituency-level “NGCDF Open Weeks” where citizens can review projects, ask questions, and celebrate local success stories. Visibility is a form of accountability.

Additionally, Kenya could draw from global community funds that successfully balance government oversight with citizen participation. For instance, the Philippines' “Bottom-Up Budgeting” model and Rwanda's “Imihigo” performance contracts demonstrate how strong monitoring frameworks, local participation, and transparency can coexist. Adapting similar mechanisms — like participatory budgeting, grievance redress platforms, and independent project audits — would elevate the NGCDF to a new standard of credibility. International donors and development agencies could even partner with the Fund on specific thematic areas such as education, youth empowerment, and climate adaptation, expanding its resource base and legitimacy.

From my professional lens, reforming the NGCDF should focus on three fronts. First, constitutional anchoring: Parliament and the Senate should work together to address the legal deficiencies identified by the courts and give the Fund a firm constitutional foundation. Second, governance strengthening: enhance the independence and professional capacity of constituency committees, reinforce community oversight, and adopt digital procurement and reporting tools. Third, public engagement: transform the Fund's image through open communication, success documentation, and strategic partnerships that showcase results.

As someone who has managed both national and international programmes, I believe the NGCDF represents Kenya's most successful example of localized development. It is imperfect — but so are all systems that grow faster than they evolve. The solution lies in re-engineering, not dismantling. We need to apply global best practices in project management and accountability while retaining the Fund's community spirit, to make the NGCDF a global model for inclusive development financing.

The time has come for a national conversation that moves beyond politics and litigation. The NGCDF is not an “MP's kitty” - it is a national asset that has served millions of Kenyans faithfully for over two decades. Reforming it would not only preserve a vital instrument of equity but also signal Kenya's maturity in balancing law, governance, and public service. Let us strengthen what works, fix what doesn't, and keep development where it belongs - with the people.

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