



MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ROADS

BEYOND THE HIGHWAY

A Publication of the State Department for Roads



GALANA-KULALU BRIDGE

Inside this issue

- Message from the Principal Secretary
- Multi-Agency Team Reviews HoAGDP Progress Pg 3.
- Government Accelerates National Roads Programme Pg 4.
- Vetting for FY2026/27 Performance Contract Pg 5.
- State Department for Roads Strengthens Partnership with KfW Pg 6.
- Public Participation Exercise on Engineering Technology draft guidelines, Pg 7.
- New Galana-Kulalu Bridge Pg 8.
- State Department for Roads Sets Sights on KECOSO Trials Pg 9.

Message from the Principal Secretary



We kicked-off the 2026/2027 Financial Year with a clear commitment to deliver a road network that drives economic growth, strengthens connectivity, and improves the lives of all Kenyans. This financial year presents an opportunity to build on the gains made under the Government's BETA Agenda while accelerating the delivery of priority road infrastructure across the country.

Throughout July, our focus remained on ensuring the successful implementation of ongoing projects. We closely monitored progress, reviewed key implementation milestones, and conducted field inspections to ensure timely delivery, value for public investment, and strict adherence to quality standards. Strong oversight remains essential to delivering infrastructure that is efficient, durable, and capable of generating lasting socio-economic benefits.

Our priority is the timely completion of strategic road projects that unlock economic opportunities, improve access to markets and essential services, facilitate trade, and enhance Kenya's regional and global competitiveness.

We also strengthened collaboration with our strategic development partners, reaffirming our shared commitment to delivering infrastructure that enhances connectivity, promotes trade, and supports sustainable socio-economic development.

As we continue to expand and modernize the national road network, we remain focused on accelerating delivery, embracing innovation, strengthening partnerships, and building a resilient road sector that meets the aspirations of Kenyans while advancing our national development agenda.

I commend our staff for their dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to our mandate of delivering a safe, durable, and high-quality road network.

Eng. Joseph Mbugua, CBS
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Multi-Agency Team Reviews HoAGDP Progress, Charts Way Forward for Faster Implementation

BY WAMBUI SPINCER



Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua chairs the Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP) Multi-Agency Implementation Support Mission Wrap-Up Meeting, held at Works Building on 2 July 2026.

Principal Secretary, Eng. Joseph Mbugua, chaired the Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP) Multi-Agency Implementation Support Mission Wrap-Up Meeting and the Second Quarter 2026 Project Oversight Committee Meeting to review implementation progress and agree on measures to accelerate project delivery.

The meeting focused on fast-tracking key procurement, strengthening project oversight, enhancing road safety, and expediting land acquisition and compensation to ensure timely implementation.



PS Eng. Joseph Mbugua, addressing the Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP) Multi-Agency Implementation support team.

Eng. Mbugua confirmed that implementation of the HoAGDP is progressing well, with contracts for all road sections and fibre optic infrastructure already awarded. He further noted that the approval of the Second Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (HoAGDP II), together with additional financing, has secured funding for the entire 740-kilometre Isiolo-Mandera Road Corridor.

Once completed, the project is expected to enhance regional connectivity, facilitate trade, expand digital infrastructure, and unlock socio-economic opportunities across Northern Kenya and the wider Horn of Africa region.

The meeting was attended by the World Bank team and representatives from the State Department for Roads, the State Department for Transport, the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy (MICDE), the State Department for Public Works, the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA), the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA), the Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA), the Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA), Kenya Railways Corporation, the National Land Commission (NLC), the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), the Directorate of Occupational Safety and Health Services (DOSHS), the National Construction Authority (NCA), the Kenya Roads Board (KRB), the University of Nairobi (UoN), and the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK).



Government Accelerates National Roads Programme and JKIA Modernization

BY WAMBUI SPINCER

The Cabinet Secretary for Roads and Transport, Mr. Davis Chirchir, on 3rd July joined the Deputy President, Prof. Kithure Kindiki, for a high-level progress review meeting on the Government's infrastructure development agenda at Harambee House Annex, Nairobi.

The meeting, chaired by the Deputy President, received status updates on the ongoing road projects across all the 47 counties and reviewed the scope of works and key milestones for the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) Modernization Project.



Deputy President Prof. Kithure Kindiki chairing the meeting on review of the Government's infrastructure development agenda at Harambee House Annex, Nairobi on 3rd July, 2026.

The Deputy President noted that the Government had successfully cleared KSh 177 billion in pending bills owed to contractors for road projects that had stalled during the 2020–2021 period, paving the way for the resumption of the national roads programme. “Over the past year, the Government has paid KSh 270 billion to road contractors, supporting the implementation of approximately 8,000 kilometres of bitumen road projects across the country,” added the DP.

The meeting further noted that the modernization of Jomo Kenyatta International Airport (JKIA) had officially commenced. The KSh 155 billion project marks a major milestone in the Government's efforts to upgrade the country's premier aviation gateway, enhance passenger experience, and strengthen Kenya's position as a regional transport and logistics hub.

Also present were the Principal Secretary for Aviation, Ms. Teresia Mbaika; the Director General of the Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA), Eng. Silas Kinoti; and the Director General of the Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA), Eng. Jackson Magondi, among other senior Government officials.



Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Roads and Transport, Mr. Davis Chirchir



Master Plan for the New Proposed Jomo Kenyatta International Airport upgrades

The Ministry of Roads and Transport convenes vetting for FY 2026/27 Performance Contract

BY ABDULLAHI MOHAMED



Principal Secretary for the State Department for National Government Coordination, Ahmed Ibrahim, chairing the Ministry of Roads and Transport vetting of the FY 2026/27 Performance Contract at Transcom House on 21st July, 2026.

The Ministry of Roads and Transport on 21st July convened the vetting for FY 2026/27 Performance Contract bringing together representatives from the Three State Departments within the Ministry; to review and refine the Ministry's Performance Contract ahead of submission.

Addressing the meeting, Principal Secretary State Department for National Government Coordination, Ahmed Ibrahim encouraged participants to reflect on previous performance in setting this year's targets and emphasized the importance of evidence-based reporting in strengthening accountability, improving service delivery, and delivering measurable results.

The PS further noted that Kenya's performance contracting framework has become a benchmark to several African countries seeking to strengthen their public sector performance. He underscored the role of performance contracting in advancing the Government's development agenda and realizing the aspirations of Kenya's Vision 2030 and the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

The exercise marks another key milestone in the Ministry's Performance Contract preparation process, reinforcing the Ministry's commitment to accountability, continuous improvement, and results-driven service delivery. Present were the representatives from the State Department for Performance and Delivery Management to offer technical guidance throughout the vetting exercise, working closely with Ministry's Departments to ensure the Performance Contract aligns with the Government's contracting framework.



The Ministry of Roads and Transport PC Champions follow the proceedings during the vetting of the FY 2026/27 Performance Contract at Transcom House.

State Department for Roads Strengthens Partnership with KfW to Accelerate Infrastructure Development

BY J.K OMONDI



Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua hosted a delegation from the German Development Bank (KfW) at Works Building on 4th July, 2026.

As part of the Roads sub-sector's efforts to strengthen collaboration with development partners, the Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua, on 4th of July, received a courtesy call from a delegation of the German Development Bank (KfW), led by Jeff Murage, to review the progress of ongoing road infrastructure projects.

The meeting focused on assessing key project milestones, exchanging insights, and reinforcing collaboration towards the successful implementation of priority transport projects.



The discussions reaffirmed a shared commitment to delivering sustainable, high-quality road infrastructure that enhances connectivity, supports Kenya's socio-economic development, and improves the livelihoods of communities across the country.

The engagement underscored the importance of strong partnerships in advancing transformative infrastructure projects that drive economic growth and foster inclusive national development.



The State Department for Roads concludes the Public Participation Exercise on the Draft Engineering Technology Guidelines, 2026

BY ESTHER KARURI



State Department for Roads Secretary Administration, Mr. Evans Mutari (2nd from right) presiding over the Public Participation Exercise on the Draft Engineering Technology (Registration, Licensing and Compliance) Rules, 2026 at KIHBT HQs on 6th July, 2026.

The State Department for Roads concluded the Public Participation Exercise on the Draft Engineering Technology (Registration, Licensing and Compliance) Rules, 2026 at the Kenya Institute of Highways and Building Technology (KIHBT), bringing together stakeholders to contribute to the development of a strengthened regulatory framework for the engineering technology profession.

The forum was presided over by Secretary Administration, Mr. Evans Mutari, MBS, who reaffirmed the Government's commitment to transparency, inclusivity, and stakeholder engagement in the development of regulations that govern the sector.

He emphasized the critical role of engineering technology professionals in supporting infrastructure development, industrial growth, and the delivery of the Government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

Participants drawn from National Government Administration, professional associations, training institutions, county governments, the private sector, development partners, and the public shared views and recommendations aimed at enhancing professionalism, public safety, quality assurance, innovation, and accountability within the profession.

The exercise marks a key step towards establishing a modern regulatory framework that supports professional excellence and responds to the evolving needs of Kenya's engineering technology sector.



Participants follow the proceedings keenly during the Public Participation Exercise on the Draft Engineering Technology (Registration, Licensing and Compliance) Rules, 2026

New Galana–Kulalu Bridge Strengthens Regional Connectivity and Food Security

BY J.K OMONDI



The new Galana–Kulalu Bridge

The Galana–Kulalu Bridge has been completed, providing a vital link between Kilifi and Tana River counties and strengthening access to the Galana–Kulalu Food Security Project.

The bridge, which connects directly to the Malindi–Sala Gate Road, has improved the movement of people, agricultural inputs and harvested produce, enhancing access to the project area and supporting agricultural activities.

By replacing the previous diversion through Baricho, the new crossing is expected to reduce travel time and transport costs while improving connectivity, facilitating trade and enhancing access to essential services for communities in the region.

The project reflects the Government's continued investment in strategic transport infrastructure to improve mobility, support agricultural productivity and promote sustainable socio-economic development.



Team State Department for Roads Sets Sights on KECOSO Glory after High-Stakes KIHBT Trials

BY ESTHER KARURI



Participants in the trials for the annual Kenya Communications Sports Organization (KECOSO) Games

The State Department for Roads is setting its sights on corporate sports glory as preparations for the annual Kenya Communications Sports Organization (KECOSO) Games enter the final stretch. This year's edition of the tournament is set to kick off in Machakos County from 22nd August, bringing together top athletes and public servants from state agencies across the country.

In an intensive training, the department recently held its official team selection at the Kenya Institute of Highways and Building Technology (KIHBT) – Ngong Campus, where dedicated officers from across various Directorates and Ministries competed for a coveted spot on the final roster.

The selection process at KIHBT Ngong highlighted impressive talent, tactical depth, and an unwavering spirit of camaraderie. The selection committee finalized strong contingents across a comprehensive lineup of disciplines, ensuring Team Roads will be a formidable contender in field, court, board, and cue sports. The department will field teams in football, athletics, basketball, volleyball, netball, swimming, and golf, while also sending top-tier competitors in scrabble, chess, darts, pool, snooker, and table tennis.

With final rosters locked in and the kickoff date approaching, team captains and coaches are shifting focus to tactical refinement and peak conditioning. Beyond individual accolades and medal tallies, Team Roads is unified by a clear target: making a decisive push for the coveted Mawasiliano Shield, the ultimate prize awarded to the overall institutional champion.

Departmental leadership applauded the discipline and enthusiasm displayed by all participating officers, reiterating that competitive sports remain a cornerstone of employee wellness, mental resilience, and inter-agency teamwork. As the final countdown to Machakos begins, the entire department stands firmly behind our athletes.



Go Team Roads!

Pictorial



Principal Secretary, Eng. Joseph Mbugua, joined Cabinet Secretaries Kipchumba Murkomen (Interior and National Administration), Beatrice Askul Moe (East African Community (EAC), ASALs and Regional Development), and Soipan Tuya (Defence), alongside other national and local leaders, during the Kerio Valley Security Assessment Mission, where they engaged local communities, assessed the security situation, and unveiled key development projects on 24th July 2026.



Principal Secretary, Eng. Joseph Mbugua, accompanied by Principal Secretary for Public Works, Joel Arumonyang, receives a warm traditional welcome from Pokot dancers as he presided over a fundraising event at ACK Kaporowo Senior Secondary School in Pokot South Constituency, West Pokot County on 24th July, 2026.



The State Department for Roads convened the FY 2026/27 Performance Contract (PC) Drafting Meeting, bringing together departmental leadership to align priorities and targets for the 2026/27 Financial Year on 21st July, 2026.



Principal Secretary, Eng. Joseph Mbugua, inspects the ongoing upgrading of the Shamakhokho-Kaimosi-Mpaka-Museno Road to bitumen standard on 23rd July 2026.



Ongoing construction works on the Economic Zone 1 Road within the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Mombasa. The road will enhance access to the SEZ, boost industrialization, improve logistics, and spur economic growth.



The ongoing construction of the 52-kilometre Mwagodi-Msau-Dawida-Mbale-Wundanyi-Werugha-Bura Road Project in Taita Taveta County is progressing steadily. This road will enhance connectivity, improve access to essential services and stimulate economic growth across Taita Taveta County.



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