

Nairobi County's Transformation: Progress Across Key Sectors

Nairobi County is undergoing remarkable change across multiple sectors, from education and healthcare to sports, trade, water, and environmental management. These developments are not just about infrastructure or services, they are about transforming everyday life for residents, restoring dignity, creating opportunities, and building a city of order, hope, and opportunity.

The following highlights showcase some of the progress achieved across key areas of the capital:

1. Education & Youth Empowerment

Education has been at the centre of Nairobi's transformation, with investments targeting both access and quality.



Figure 1 Governor Sakaja serving learners under the Dishi na County school feeding programme.

➤ The Dishi na County school feeding programme has become a lifeline for learners across the city. Today, over 316,000 pupils receive a hot, nutritious meal daily, boosting school attendance, concentration, and overall wellbeing. In Dandora, more than 200 children were rescued from scavenging in dumpsites and

brought back to class thanks to the programme's pull.

- To match the surge in enrollment, the County has delivered 66 new ECDE classrooms with 21 more under construction. Centres like Ngunyumu ECD in Korogocho now provide safe, child-friendly spaces with modern furniture and learning facilities, ensuring a strong foundation for Nairobi's youngest learners.
- Partnerships with organizations such as Food 4 Education and Mavuno Church have further strengthened school feeding and infrastructure support, ensuring that no child is left behind.

2. Health & Life-Saving Innovations

Nairobi's health sector has recorded groundbreaking milestones that are expanding the scope of care within County facilities.



Figure 2 Doctors at Mbagathi Hospital after successfully performing the facility's first-ever brain surgery

➤ At Mbagathi Hospital, doctors successfully performed the first-ever ventriculo-peritoneal brain surgery, saving the life of a 27-year-old patient battling a brain tumour. This procedure, previously only available in national referral hospitals, demonstrates the growing capacity of County facilities to deliver specialized care.

➤ The hospital also unveiled a modern Abbott blood screening machine,

establishing Nairobi's first accredited County-level blood screening hub. This means faster, more reliable access to safe blood for all County hospitals, reducing dependence on external facilities and supporting lifesaving interventions during surgeries and emergencies.

- Alongside these advancements, investments in plasma agitators, modern labs, and strengthened clinical services are setting the stage for better patient outcomes across the city.

3. Maternal & Child Health

Pumwani Maternity and Referral Hospital, East Africa's largest maternity facility, is setting new standards in maternal and neonatal care.

- The hospital has been equipped with modern theatre and labour ward equipment, alongside renovations to the Maternal & Child Health unit, creating a safer and more patient-friendly environment.
- The Human Milk Bank, Kenya's first and only, has provided life-saving nutrition to 1,887 vulnerable infants as of August 2025, with milk donations from 2,598 mothers. The initiative has also extended its support to Mbagathi and Mama Lucy Hospitals.

- With nearly 15,000 babies delivered annually, Pumwani continues to reduce maternal deaths and improve neonatal outcomes. Plans are underway to establish another milk bank at Mbagathi Hospital to expand access to life-saving nutrition.

4. Sports & Community Engagement

Sports and recreation have become powerful tools for youth development and community cohesion.

- The Uhuru Complex Sports Arena in Embakasi West and Mbotela Stadium in Makadara, officially opened in 2024, have transformed their local communities with facilities including a football pitch, basketball and netball courts, a boxing ring, an indoor hall, and a gym. Students from nearby schools now train and compete in professional-standard venues, with promising talents being spotted for higher-level opportunities.



Figure 3 Renovated sports complexes providing modern facilities for youth and community engagement across Nairobi

- Beyond sports, the arenas have become a safe social hub, keeping youth engaged in positive activities and offering families a space for recreation and fitness. Local businesses, from vendors to transport operators, are also benefiting from the economic activity generated by events and tournaments.
- Additional stadiums are under construction or renovation, including Woodley, Kihumbuini, Joe Kadenge, and Mwiki, ensuring equitable access to modern sports infrastructure across all wards.

5. Environment & Sanitation

Nairobi is reimagining its approach to waste management through structural and technological reforms.



Figure 4 The Green Army workforce deployed across estates and markets to keep Nairobi clean, safe, and green

➤ The County has empowered the Green Army, a 4,000-strong workforce deployed across estates and markets to clean, manage waste, and beautify the city. Most members have now been confirmed on permanent and pensionable terms, the largest such recruitment since 1987.

- To boost efficiency, the County has tripled investment in equipment, procuring 24 compactors, 27 tippers, 10 skip loaders, and 50 skips, alongside installing 900 litter bins across the city. These steps are ensuring Nairobi steadily moves towards becoming a cleaner, healthier capital.

6. Trade & Business Reforms

The County is making it easier to do business through the Unified Business Permit (UBP), which replaces multiple licenses with a single digital permit. This reform reduces bureaucracy, saves time and costs, and supports SMEs, creating a more enabling environment for investment.

What initiative has your County taken to transform lives?

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