



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECOND ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION - 2019

COMMITTEE

ON

TOURISM, SPORTS & CULTURE

A REPORT ON THE INSPECTION EXERCISE ON TOURISM PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI UNDER THE 2015/2016, 2016/2017 AND 2017/2018 BUDGETARY ALLOCATION.

Clerk's Chambers,
Kitui County Assembly Buildings,
KITUI.

November, 2019

Contents

1.0 PREFACE..... 5

1.1. Committee membership 5

1.2. Committee’s Mandate..... 5

2.0 BACKGROUND 9

3.0 COMMITTEE FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS..... 11

Findings;..... 23

Committee Recommendation 24

4.0 COMMITTEE’S GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS 27

5.0 CONCLUSION 28

6.0 CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT BY THE.. 29

COMMITTEE..... 29

7.0 PHOTOS..... 30

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

KFS.....Kenya Forest Services

MHPS.....Mutomo Hills Plant Sanctuary

KWS.....Kenya Wildlife Service

IBA.....Important Bird Areas

MNR.....Mwingi National Reserve

SSG.....Site Support Groups

C.B.Os.....Community Based Organization(s)

N.E.M.A.....National Environmental Management Authority

C.E.C.M.....County Executive Committee Member

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mr. Speaker,

This report documents activities relating to project inspection exercise carried out by the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture on the County Ministry on Tourism, Sports and Culture from 23rd to 27th April, 2019.

Chapter One of this report outlines the preface, mandate of the committee, membership of the committee and acknowledgement.

Chapter Two of this report gives the introduction of the legal background and the objectives that steered the committee to undertake these activities.

Chapter Three of the report documents the areas and challenges faced by the committee one by county government.

Chapter Four outlines the recommendations and conclusions made by the Committee.

1.0 PREFACE

Mr Speaker Sir,

On behalf of the Members of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture and pursuant to provisions of Standing Order 179(6), I beg to move the adoption of the Report of the Committee on her Inspection Exercise on assessment of Tourism, Sports and Culture projects funded by the County Government during the 2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial Years. The Exercise took place from 23rd to 28th April, 2019.

1.1. Committee membership

Mr Speaker Sir,

The Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture is currently constituted of the following members:-

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Deiys M. Mukala | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Munira Mohamed | Member |
| 4. Hon. Alex Ngau Musili | Member |
| 5. Hon. Muteti Nding'uri | Member |
| 6. Hon. Jane Mutua | Member |
| 7. Hon. Mary Ndumbu | Member |
| 8. Hon. Stephen Katana | Member |
| 9. Hon. Ann Mumo | Member |
| 10. Hon. Charity S. Mwangangi | Member |
| 11. Hon. John Mbaki Kisangau | Member |

1.2. Committee's Mandate

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The select Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture derives its mandate from provisions of Standing Order 190 (5) which defines functions of the committee as to, inter alia; to:-

- a) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

- b) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- c) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- d) The Committees may propose to the County Assembly, sanctions against any member of the County Executive Committee who fails to report to the relevant select Committee on implementation status without justifiable reasons.
- e) Study and review all county legislation referred to it.
- f) Study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

It is worthy to note that during the inspection exercise, the committee members were faced with various Challenges such as;

- Poor road networks; some roads were impassable due to heavy down pour which had cut sections of the roads and others due to poor grading of the roads. This led to delays in getting to the sites/ projects in good time thus interfering with the committee timelines. In some instances, the committee had to push the vehicle several times and for hours when it got stuck. This happened thrice in Mutha ward, Mumoni ward twice and four times in Tseikuru ward.

However, it is the Committee's sincere hope that appropriate measures will be taken to address those kind of challenges in future in order to ease the work of committees while handling field assignments.

The above notwithstanding, the Committee discharged her mandate as provided for in the Standing Orders and the desire to inspect the said projects and determine their worthiness and prudent use of public funds.

Mr Speaker Sir,

The committee used the following methods in carrying out her task in order to get the necessary information required;-

- Direct observation of the Sites/projects.

- Oral interviewing of the County executive staffs who had accompanied the committee during the exercise.
- Taking photos of the Sites/projects.

Acknowledgements

Mr Speaker Sir,

The Committee wishes to thank the Offices of the Speaker and of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the invaluable support and assistance extended to it during the execution of her mandate.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all members of the Committee for their patience, Sacrifice, endurance and Commitment to Public Service under tight schedules which enabled us to complete the task within the stipulated period.

The Committee wishes to record its appreciation for services rendered by the committee Clerk attached to the Committee. His effort and input made the work of the Committee and production of this Report possible.

Similarly, the committee extends its appreciation to the Staff from the Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Culture, Mr. Hezron Mulatya- Director for Tourism and Mr. Vincent Nzau- Senior Warden, who guided and offered prodigious support to the committee on the technical aspects of the projects which was necessary to enable the committee make informed decisions regarding her findings and recommendations.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

It is now my pleasant duty, on behalf of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture, to present the committee report on assessment of tourism, sports and culture projects funded by the county government during the 2015/2016, 2016/ 2017 and 2017/2018 financial years.

Thank you,

SIGNED 

HON ELIZABETH NDUNGE PETER.

CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON TOURISM, SPORTS AND CULTURE

Date:

2.0 BACKGROUND

Mr Speaker Sir,

In undertaking the tour visit, the committee acted within the provisions of **Article 185 (3)** of the Constitution which states that;

" a County Assembly, while respecting the principle of the separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the County Executive committee and any other County Executive organs;

Similarly, section 165 and 166 of the public management Act states that accounting officers of county government entities should prepare and submit annual and quarterly reports of the financial year to the county assembly. Thus the committee made use of these submitted annual and quarterly departmental reports to assess Ministry's projects and interrogate them based on the findings made from the field in comparison with the ministries report.

The five-day tour visit covered the following County tourist's attractions sites as shown in the itinerary below;

| DATE | SUB-COUNTY | WARD | PROJECT |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Tuesday 23/04/2019 | Kitui Rural and Kitui South | Yatta/ Kwa Vonza and Mutomo | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kanyonyoo Community Conservancy• MHPS- Construction of reptile park-fencing project. |
| Wednesday 24/04/2019 | Kitui South and Kitui East | Mutha wards and Mutitu/ Kaliku | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Construction of entry gate at Tulima- South Kitui National reserve.• Proposed site for bird watching at Mutitu. |

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Thursday 25/04/2019 | Mwingi West | Migwani wards and Mumoni wards | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Tourists View point at Kaluu. • Grading of access road to Kaluu View Point. • Proposed site for bird watching Mumoni hills |
| Friday 26/04/2019 | Mwingi North | Tseikuru ward | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance gate at Adamson falls • Proposed renovation of Adamson picnic site • Construction of entrance gate-Kaningo • Construction of rangers camp at Kaningo H/Qs • Grading of Ikime access |
| Saturday 27/04/2019 | Mwingi North | Tseikuru ward | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masyungwa entrance gate to Mwingi North National Reserve • Construction of Masyungwa borehole |
| Sunday 28/04/2019 | Report writing | Mwingi | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mwingi cottages |

3.0 COMMITTEE FINDING AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. KANINGO ENTRANCE GATE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

As one of the ministry's efforts to enhance access to Mwingi Game Reserve and increase revenue collection, the ministry budgeted for the construction of entrance gate at Kaningo area. The gate was constructed during the 2015/2016 financial but so far, the project has stalled.

Project title: Construction of Entrance gate at Kaningo and ablution block.

Name of the Contractor: Guardian Insurance Agencies

Project sum: Kshs. **3,772,921.50.**

Scope of work: Included construction of a modern gate with armory rooms, ablution, roofing and fixing of the metallic gate.

Project Status: Complete ablution block/85% done

Findings.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The contractor completed the construction of the gate structure.
- That the metallic gate is in place.

Recommendation

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The committee recommends that the procurement department should cancel the contract with immediate and surcharge the contractor for not completing the project.
- Any contract/ project for 2015/2016 and 2016/2017 which have stalled must also be canceled and awarded afresh to new contractors.

2. RANGERS CAMP AT KANINGO HEADQUARTERS.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

During the Financial year 2015/2016, the ministry constructed a modern ranger's camp at Kaningo headquarters to boost security at the Mwingi North Game reserve. The aim of this project was to ease insecurity patrols in curbing poaching, charcoal burning and controlling overgrazing in the reserve protected area.

Project title: Construction of Rangers Camp at Kaningo

Name of the Contractor: Kandu Construction Company

Project sum total: Kshs. **6,375,567.**

Scope of work: site work including fencing, installation of the unihuts, mess hall, solar lights and construction of ablution block.

Amount disbursed: Ksh **3,384,880** supply and delivery and **2,990,687** for site work Totaling to Ksh. **6,375,567.**

Project Status: 100% Complete.

Findings:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The committee found out that indeed the ministry has taken this project with the seriousness it deserves through building a modern game rangers camp and made the following observations, That;

- The Game Ranger Camp H/Qs is well fenced with chain link.
- The camp has a modern entrance metallic gate with other two smaller gates for exit.
- For security purposes at night, three (3) solar lamps are installed within the compound but are not functional.
- Ablution block with a septic tank within the compound is well constructed.
- There are 9 modern unihuts with air cons, Cement floor, well lit from inside with solar lamps.

- 5000 Liters water tank fitted with water gutters and well fixed on a cement concrete slab.
- A spacious mess hall with lights and air cones is well installed with facilities such as chairs and tables.
- Three flags masts erected in the compound to hoist a county flag, national flag and KWS flag.
- The ministry also plans to dig a borehole within the camp compound to supplement water for use by rangers from the one collected from mess roof top to the tank.
- There is no network in the area. The committee found out that the ministry had approached Orange Company and they had agreed to put up a BTS in the area.

Recommendation

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- That the contractor did a commendable job on the project and the committee was pleased with the overall site work.
- The ministry should allocate funds to equip the rangers' mess hall.
- The ministry should also allocate funds to repair the solar panels.
- The Ministry should consider planting more trees in the compound to make the area more pleasant to live in.
- The ministry should also consider providing a Television set in the ranger's mess hall.
- The ministry should push the Orange Company to put a BTS in the area for communication purposes and security concerns of the rangers as they had agreed.

3. IKIME ACCESS ROAD

Mr. Speaker Sir,

In an effort to improve the accessibility to the Mwingi North Game Reserve, the ministry undertook upgrading of Ikime access road during the financial year 2016/2017.

Project title: Grading of Ikime access Road

Name of the Contractor: Biospan Company Ltd

Project sum: Kshs. 1,737,314

Scope of work: Grading of 19 km access road

Project Status: 100% Complete

Findings

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- That only grading works was done on the road.
- Some sections of the roads were impassable during the trip due to heavy downpour cutting sections of the road.

Recommendations;

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to put murrum on the road to make the site accessible during rainy season and also install culverts where necessary.

4. CUT LINE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

To protect Mwingi North Game reserve from encroachment, the county government during the financial year 2015/2016, financed the 75 kms cut line creation project. The cut line is designed to minimize illegal activities and enhance conservation of wildlife in Mwingi North Game Reserve.

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Project title: | Opening up of western boundary cutline. |
| Name of the Contractor: | Garnet Engineering. |
| Project sum: | Kshs. 6,862,861.21 |
| Scope of work: | Light bush clearing, stumps removal |
| Project Status: | Complete |

Findings:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The contractor cleared the bush from Tana River all the way to Masyungwa gate to create a cut line for the reserve.
- The cut line width is approximately 10 metres wide providing a clear boundary between the protected area and the public land.

Recommendations:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- In order to deal with the issue of encroachment once and for all, the committee recommends that in future, the ministry to consider erecting electrical fence round the reserve.

5. MASYUNGWA ENTRANCE GATE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

This gate is located in Kasiluni in Masyungwa Location and it was constructed by the county Government during 2015/2016 financial year.

Project title: Construction of Masyungwa entrance gate

Name of the Contractor: Eituna Agencies

Project sum: Kshs. 2,432,490.

Scope of work: Modern gate with an armory section, Metallic gate and doors plus windows, ablution block, ceiling

Project Status: Complete

Findings:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The gate is well constructed and clearly branded with a county logo.
- The walls have beautiful drawings of wild and markings creating a unique structure.
- Two window panes have been vandalized.
- Poor accessibility to the facility especially during rainy season due to poor roads network.

Recommendations

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The ministry should deploy rangers to the site who will man the facility and prevent any form of vandalism.
- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to put murrum on the road to make the reserve accessible during rainy season and also install culverts where necessary.

6. MASYUNGWA BOREHOLE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The ministry of tourism during the financial year 2015/16 funded a borehole at Masyungwa area adjacent to Masyungwa entrance gate. This is part of the ministry's community outreach programme aiming at improving the livelihood of the local community through conservation. The project was expected to engage the community positively in conservation activities hence changing their attitudes towards the reserve. The initiative was also expected to enhance access to water to the community near the reserve for domestic use and their livestock.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Project title: | Drilling of Masyungwa Borehole. |
| Name of the Contractor: | Valley drillers |
| Project sum: | Kshs 3,350,600 |
| Scope of work: | Drilling, piping and testing |
| Project Status: | 75% complete- (Project Abandoned) |

Findings:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The committee found out that;

- The initial purpose was not met since the contractor found out that the water table was very low.
- There is no close water source for the community around, hence; such a project will go a long way in providing clean water to the area residents.

Recommendations

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The committee recommends that the ministry finds an alternative area to drill a borehole for the community around.

7. CONSTRUCTION AND GRADING OF ACCESS ROAD TO KALUU VIEW POINT- IKOO VALLEY

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Ikoo valley is an extensive scenic site located in Migwani Ward. The valley is about 48 kms from Kitui town and 30kms from Mwingi town. The valley has three key viewing points;

- a) Bazaan view point.
- b) Kaluu view point.
- c) Ulamba view point.

The Kaluu view point was constructed during the 2015/2016 financial. The view point offers a stunningly beautiful scenery of the valley developing into Thua River which meanders beautiful across the plains.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Project title: | Construction of view point at Kaluu. |
| Name of the Contractor: | Vicky Construction Group. |
| Project sum: | Kshs. 1,512, 640. |
| Scope of work: | Bush Clearing, grading of 4 km road, |
| Project Status: | complete |

Findings.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- Grading of access road to Kaluu view point was well done but the road became impassable during the rainy season.

Recommendations.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to put murrum on the road to make the site accessible during rainy season and also install culverts where necessary.
- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to construct refreshment shops, curio- shops and a parking lot near the site to avoid parking along the main road which may inconvenience other motorists using the road.

8. MUTITU HILLS -BIRDS WATCHING SITE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Mutitu forest reserve located in Kitui East in Mutitu hills was gazetted in 1974. Mutito hills is 1986 acres in size and 5148 feet above the sea level. The forest is managed by KWS Officers based at Mutitu Forest station. The forest has both indigenous and plantation forests with *Terminalia brownii* being the dominant tree species. The hills' great height gives magnificent views of many parts of Kitui County. Mutito bird watching site was gazetted in 2016 and has over 425 bird species.

Project title: Establishment of bird watching sites at Mutito hills

Name of the Contractor: Nature Kenya.

Project sum: Kshs. 1,690,000.

Scope of work: Feasibility study, sampling groups, training SSGs, study and research works

Project Status: complete

Findings.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- That the SSG has 135 committed members who are from 7 different groups.
- The groups are involved in conservation of hills and birds and have been receiving a lot of support from nature Kenya.
- That nature Kenya trained the groups on record keeping, networking with other SSGs, bio-diversity, eco-tourism to understand flora.
- The groups have also been trained on Governance, Advocacy, financial management, bio-diversity monitoring and eco-tourism activities.
- Apart from encouraging people to conserve birds, they encourage them to plant trees in both schools, churches
- The group has come up with her own work plan
- Membership is 200 shillings.
- Members have nurseries for the seedlings.
- There are no physical structures on the designated bird watching areas

- The hills have several species of birds some which are very rare eg the *Hindes Barbra* species which is only found in two places in the whole world i.e Mutitu and Mumoni hills.
- The project's cost was **Kshs. 3,380,000** for both Mutitu and Mumoni hills.

Challenges facing Mutitu SSG

- Land Encroachment especially on the side of Ulonzo. Thus they are calling for the county government to fence the area to protect tree logging and charcoal burning.
- Poor road networks in the area making it difficult to access forest reserve and the hill top.
- Inadequate knowledge to SSGs members- needs more trainings and materials to ease the group work.
- Lack of capacity building and exposure tours- need to be exposed to other areas with similar activities in Kenya.
- Lack of office space near the site- requesting the old KFS houses to be renovated and be allocated a room for their office.

Findings.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The ministry in collaboration with nature Kenya has managed to register both Mutitu and Mumoni hills as important bird areas (IBAs). These have been registered as IBA NOs: 77 and 76 respectively.
- Presence of a very important bird called Hinde's Babbler which is a threatened bird in Kenya.
- There are no clear nature trails at the IBA.
- The ministry of tourism, sports and culture in conjunction with nature Kenya has so far conducted public barazas, mapped the IBA boundaries, conducted rapid bird assessment(RBA), and formed site support groups(SSG).
- The ministry targets the site to be used as research hub.
- The ministry has issued materials like binoculars, digital cameras, guide books and GPS to the SSGs for identifying and monitoring birds in these areas.

- The ministry has deployed county game rangers in the area who monitor the forest.

Recommendations

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The ministry needs to involve schools in this initiative to collaborate with SSGs on tree planting exercise.
- The KWS and the County Ministry of tourism, sports and culture should work in harmony to realize their goal.
- In order to deal with frequent fire break-ups in the forests, the ministry should set funds aside to do cut line around the area.
- The ministry should come up with good marketing strategies to market both Mutitu and Mumoni hills as IBAs.
- The ministry should also encourage people and put more emphasis on eco-tourism.
- The ministry should develop a good bill to protect these IBAs.
- The ministry should create other IGAs to these SSGs.
- The ministry should consider pre-qualifying the SSGs to be supplying seedlings to the areas whenever needs arises.
- The ministry should be allocated funds to construct cultural centres where the community can display artifacts and traditions of Kamba culture and way of life.

9. MUMONI HILLS -BIRDS WATCHING SITE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Mumoni forest is managed by KWS Officers based at Mumoni Forest station. The forest has both indigenous and plantation forests with *Terminalia brownii* being the dominant tree species. The hills' great height gives magnificent views of many parts of Kitui County. Mumoni bird watching site was gazette as IBA No: 76 and has over 420 bird species.

Project title: Establishment of bird watching sites at
Mumoni hills

Name of the Contractor: Nature Kenya.

Project sum: Kshs. 1,690,000.

Scope of work: Feasibility study, sampling groups, training SSGs, study and research works

Project Status: Complete

Findings.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- That the SSG has 148 committed members who are from 6 different registered groups involved in conservation of the forest and birds. The groups have been receiving a lot of support from nature Kenya.
- That nature Kenya trained the groups on record keeping, networking with other SSGs, bio-diversity, eco-tourism to understand flora.
- The groups have also been trained on Governance, Advocacy, financial management, bio-diversity monitoring and eco-tourism activities.
- Apart from encouraging people to conserve birds, they encourage them to plant
- There are no physical structures on the designated bird watching areas
- The hill has several species of birds including the very rare *Hindes Barbra* species which is only found in two places in the whole world i.e Mutito and Mumoni hills.

Challenges facing Mumoni SSG

- Poor road networks in the area making it difficult to access forest reserve and the hill top.
- Inadequate trainings to the SSGs members due to inadequate budget.
- Lack of capacity building and exposure tours- need to be exposed to other areas with similar activities in Kenya.

Findings.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The ministry in collaboration with nature Kenya has managed to register both Mutitu and Mumoni hills as important bird areas (IBAs). These have been registered as IBA NOs: 77 and 76 respectively.
- Presence of a very important bird called Hinde's Babbler which is an endangered species.
- There are no clear nature trails at the IBA.

- The ministry of tourism, sports and culture in conjunction with Nature Kenya has so far conducted public barazas, mapped the IBA boundaries and conducted rapid bird assessment (RBA).
- The ministry targets the site to be used as research hub.
- The ministry has issued materials like binoculars, digital cameras, guide books and GPS to the SSGs for identifying and monitoring birds in these areas.

Recommendations

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The KWS and the County Ministry of tourism, sports and culture should work in harmony to realize their goal.
- The ministry should come up with good marketing strategies to market both Mumoni and Mutitu hills as IBAs.
- The ministry should also encourage people and put more emphasis on eco-tourism and also involve schools in tree planting exercise.
- The ministry should develop a good bill to protect these IBAs.
- The ministry should consider pre-qualifying the SSGs to be supplying seedlings to the areas whenever needs arises.
- The ministry should be allocated funds to construct cultural centres where the community can display artifacts and traditions of Kamba culture and way of life.

10. MUTOMO HILLS PLANT SANCTUARY (MHPS)- CONSTRUCTION OF REPTILE PARK- FENCING PROJECT, MAIN GATE AND LANDSCAPPING.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Mutomo Hills Plant Sanctuary (MHPS) which is located in Kitui South, Mutomo/Kibwea Ward was gazetted in 1966 as one of Kenya's nine botanical gardens. The Sanctuary measures approximately 10 hectares in size.

The former regime had pumped a colossal amount of money to undertake this project. The money was used to fix a Chain-link fence to the entire sanctuary measuring 9km² circumference, installation of the metallic exit

gate. The entire project cost was Kshs. **8, 784, 945** and was done by **Matdrew Company Ltd.**

During the financial year 2017-2018, the ministry embarked on the construction of the Main entrance gate with a sentry house, boundary wall and car park at MHPS. The three projects was awarded to different contractors as follows;-

- i. Main gate and sentry house. This was awarded to GAMECO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY and the project sum is **Ksh. 2,699,530.**
- ii. Stone boundary wall plus Small green gate. This was awarded to TARAJI CO. Ltd and the project sum is Ksh. **3,976,100.**
- iii. Car Park (Leveling, installation of cabro and drainage works). The project was awarded to KAKESU CONTRACTORS at a tune of Ksh. **3, 959,160.**

Findings;

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Members of the committee made the following observations, that;

- i. The ministry has fenced the entire sanctuary to curb encroachment and other illegal activities within the sanctuary.
- ii. The chain-link fence with a circumference of 9km² and a metallic exit gate on the lower side of the sanctuary is complete and well erected.
- iii. The construction works for the Main gate and Sentry house is to be completed in two weeks' time while the car park and landscaping is to be completed by the end of May 2019.
- iv. Works on the boundary stone wall and the small gate is complete. It is worth noting that only 2.9km of 7.1km Perimeter wall has been completed. The remaining 4.2km has not been done since no money was allocated for it.
- v. Plans are underway by the Tourism, sports and Culture ministry in collaboration with the National Museum of Kenya (NMK) to establish a reptile park and a botanical garden at the sanctuary. The botanical garden would be designated as a research centre according to the ministry.

- vi. The ministry plans to introduce the following reptile species in the park; python, red spitting cobra, savannah monitor lizard, pancake tortoise-endangered and crocodiles.
- vii. The MHPS is ideal for reptile keeping because of natural rocks within the area.

Committee Recommendation

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The committee makes the following recommendations;

1. The line ministry should allocate funds for refurbishment of dilapidated structures within the sanctuary to be used by game ranchers manning the facility as accommodation rooms.
2. The tourism ministry should hasten the process of establishing a snake park at the sanctuary to ensure snakes are well caged and confined in one area thus minimizing snake bites which has been rampant in Kitui south.

11. ADAMSON ENTRANCE GATE AND RENOVATION OF ADAMSON PICNIC SITE

Mr. Speaker Sir,

As one of the ministry's efforts to enhance access to Mwingi Game Reserve and increase revenue collection, the ministry budgeted for the construction of entrance gate at Adamson area. The gate was constructed during the 2015/2016 financial.

Project title: Construction of Entrance gate at Adamson Entrance.

Name of the Contractor: Garnet Builders

Project sum: Kshs. 2,479,735.

Scope of work: Included construction of a modern gate with armory rooms, ablution, roofing and fixing of the metallic gate.

Project Status: Complete

Findings.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- That the metallic gate is in place and in good condition.
- The walls are clearly branded with a county logo, with beautiful drawings of wild animal creating a unique structure.
- Poor accessibility to the facility especially during rainy season due to poor roads network.
- There are no county rangers at Adamson entrance only KWS officers who have taken charge of the entrance and reserve.
- That the picnic site constructed by KWS had been washed away by floods.

Recommendation

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The ministry should deploy rangers to the site who will man the facility and prevent any form of vandalism.
- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to put murrum on the road to make the reserve accessible during rainy season and also install culverts where necessary.
- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to renovate the Adamson picnic site which was destroyed by floods from the Tana River.

12. KANYONYOO COMMUNITY CONSERVANCY

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Kanyonyoo wildlife conservancy is 23,000 acres in size and is the only conservancy in the County of Kitui. The conservancy boasts of wildlife such as giraffes, zebras, antelopes, dik-diks and hyenas. As one of the ministry's efforts to open up the conservancy and have a main entrance, the ministry budgeted for the grading of 33km access road in the Financial Year 2016/2017.

Project title: Grading of 33km access roads within the conservancy

Name of the Contractor: Munlex Company Limited.

Project sum total: Kshs 4,700,000.

Scope of work: Grading of 33km access roads within the conservancy

Project Status: 100% Complete.

Findings:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- Poor accessibility to the facility especially during rainy season due to poor roads network.

Recommendation

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to put murrum on the road to make the reserve accessible during rainy season and also install culverts where necessary.

**13. CONSTRUCTION OF ENTRY GATE AT TULIMA AND
CUTLINE FOR THE SOUTH KITUI GAME RESERVE.**

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The South Kitui game reserve was gazetted in 1979 and is 1,833km² in size. It neighbours the Tsavo East National Park and is located at an altitude of 1,829 to 3994m above sea level. To protect the game reserve from encroachment, the county government during the financial year 2016/2017 proposed to finance the construction of entry gate at tulima and a cutline. The cut line was designed to show a clear demarcation between the reserve and community land, minimize illegal activities and enhance conservation of wildlife in game reserve.

The ministry budgeted the construction of the gate at 4m and 9m for the cutline. However, the tender was withdrawn after the contractor cited resistance and violent attacks by the community.

Findings:

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- Neither the gate nor cutline was done.
- There is human settlement and intrusion of pastoralists in the reserve, hence promoting human-wildlife conflicts. The reserve has become home to nearly 5,000 illegal inhabitants with some feared to be illegal aliens and terror agents.
- Poor accessibility to the facility especially during rainy season due to poor roads network.

Recommendation

Mr. Speaker Sir,

- The committee recommends that the ministry should reinstate the tender for construction of the Tulima entrance gate.
- The committee recommends that the ministry should come up with policies and regulations to manage the game reserves.
- The committee recommends that the ministry should be allocated funds to put murrum on the road to make the reserve accessible during rainy season and also install culverts where necessary.

4.0 COMMITTEE'S GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The committee makes the following recommendations;

1. The county ministry of Tourism, Sports and Culture should market Kitui County as a tourist destination by encouraging and sourcing for both local and foreign investors to come and invest in tourism industry in our county.
2. The County Government should consider training and equipping the newly employed County game rangers with guns to man the reserves and also use them to flush out herders grazing their animals in the reserves.
3. The County Government should put electrical fence around Mwingi national game reserve to deal with the issue of livestock incursion.

4. The County Government should consider restocking the reserve with a diversity of wildlife species to be more appealing to the foreign tourists.
5. The County ministry should build partnerships with the existing investors in a bid to privatise some tourists' sites as in case of some countries like Brazil.

5.0 CONCLUSION

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The inspection exercise was worthwhile for it accorded the members an opportunity see for themselves the current situation of the projects and also come up with useful recommendations. In conclusion, the members must play their oversight role as expected in ensuring that value for money is achieved as the County pursues the full realization of the objects and principles of devolved Government as enshrined in Article 174 of our Constitution 2010.

6.0 CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT BY THE COMMITTEE

We, the undersigned Members of the Committee on Tourism, Sports and Culture, having considered this Report on the assessment of Tourism, Sports and Culture development projects funded by the county government during the 2015/2016, 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 financial year, do hereby confirm our agreement with the content of the Report and request the Chairperson to present the Report to this House for adoption.

Member Name

Signature

1. Hon. Elizabeth Ndunge Peter

.....

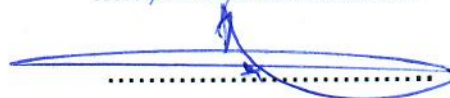

2. Hon. Deiys M. Mukala

.....


3. Hon. Munira Mohamed

.....


4. Hon. Alex Ngau Musili

.....



5. Hon. Muteti Nding'uri

.....

6. Hon. Jane Mutua

.....



7. Hon. Mary Ndumbu

.....


8. Hon. Stephen Katana

.....

9. Hon. Ann Mumo

.....


10. Hon. Charity S. Mwangangi

.....

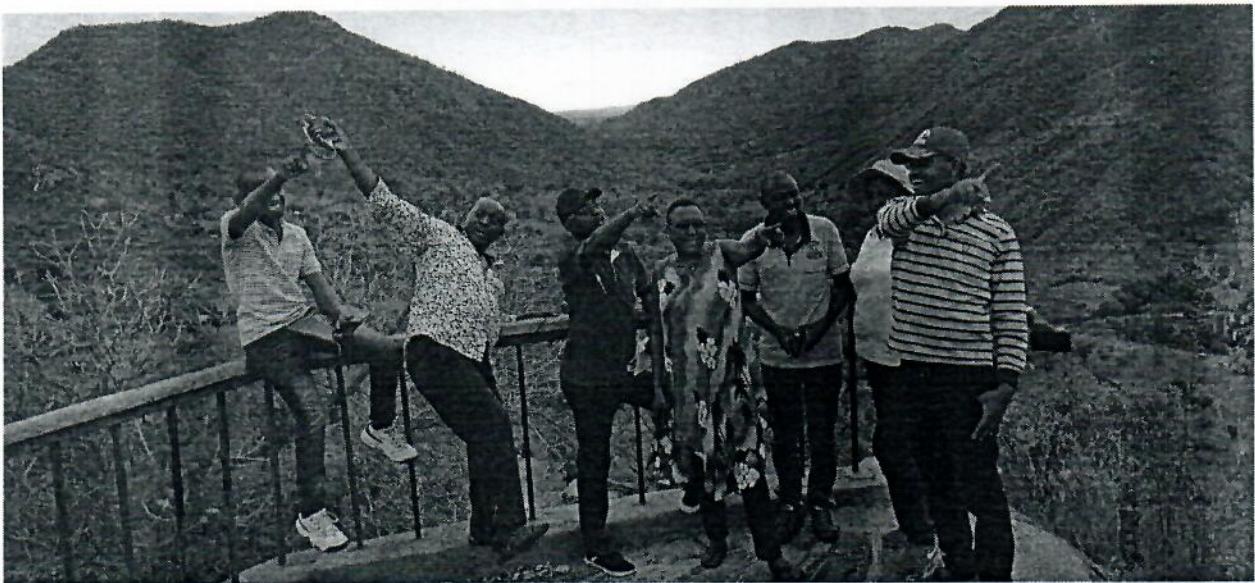

11. Hon. John Mbaki Kisangau

.....

7.0 PHOTOS



Members at the Tulima entrance Gate- South Kitui Game Reserve



Members at the Ikoo valley view point



Members at the Kaluu rock view site- ikoo valley



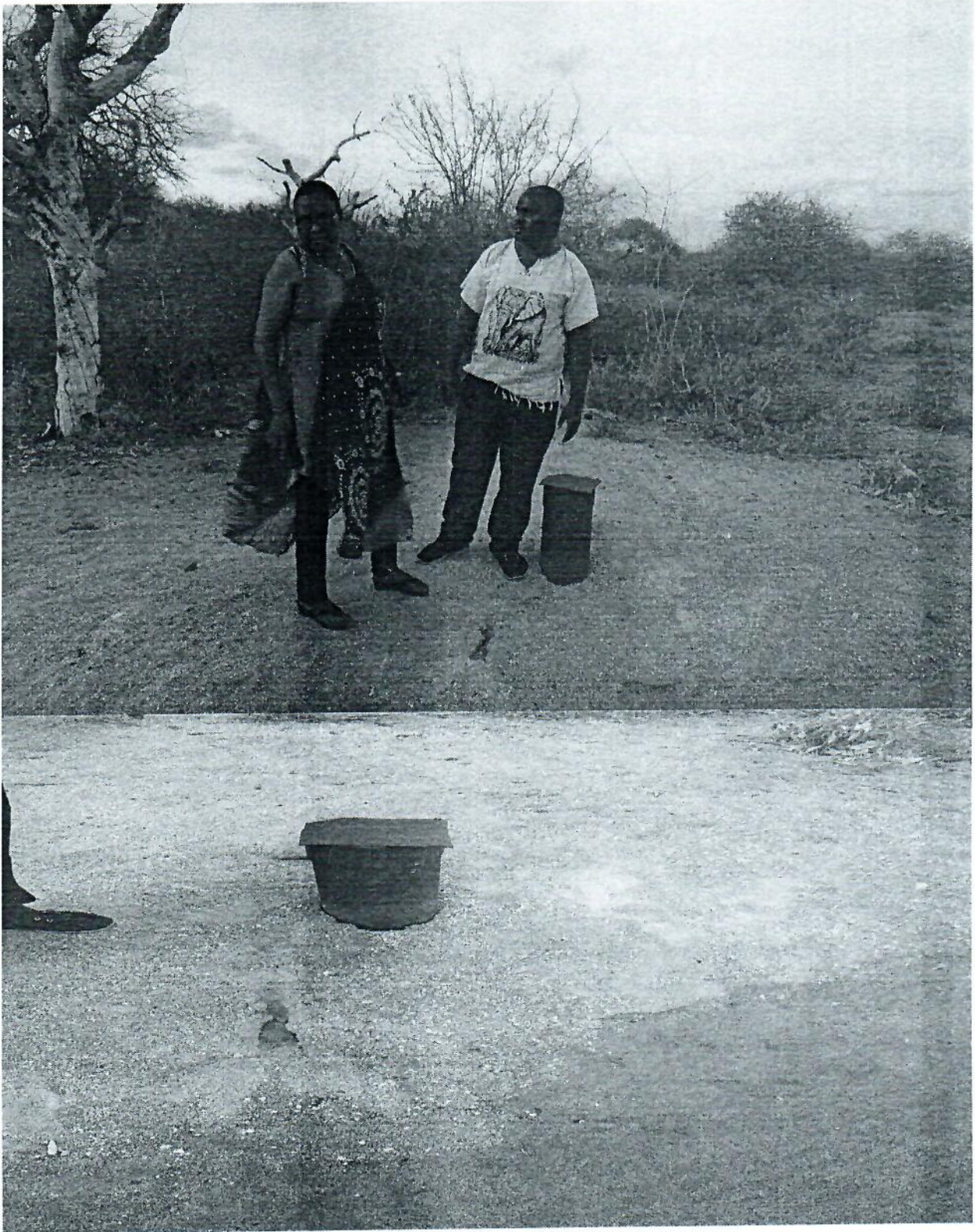
The mutomo hills plant sanctuary entrance gate



The mutomo hills plant sanctuary sentry house



The mutomo hills plant sanctuary fence



The masyungwa borehole



Members at the masyungwa entrance gate.



Members at mumoni hills bird watching site



Members walking mutito hills bird watching site



Rangers camp at kaningo headquarters

