



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THIRD ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION – 2024

**COMMITTEE
ON
CULTURE, YOUTH, SPORTS, GENDER AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

**REPORT ON SITE INSPECTION VISIT ON THE STATUS OF LOWER
EASTERN HERITAGE CENTRE, RESOURCE CENTRES AND SOCIAL HALLS
PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI**

APRIL, 2024

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



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

CAK – County Assembly of Kitui.

CCYSGSS – Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services

CECM - County Executive Committee Member

CGKT – County Government of Kitui

CO – Chief Officer

FY – Financial Year

LSOs – Local Service Orders

MCA- Member of County Assembly

PLWDs – People living With Disabilities

PFMA – Public Finance Management Act

SO – Standing Orders

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mr. Speaker,

This report documents activities relating to project inspection exercise carried out by the Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services from 8th – 12th May, 2023

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 Projects Inspected and Challenges Faced by the committee.

Chapter Four outlines the Recommendations and Conclusions made by the Committee.

CHAPTER ONE

1.0 PREFACE

Mr Speaker Sir,

On behalf of the committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services and pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order no. 179(6), it is my pleasant privilege and pleasure to present to this House the Report of the Committee on her assessment of /Inspection Exercise on the status of Lower Eastern Heritage Centre, Manyenyoni and Mutonguni Resource Centres and Mwitika Social Hall funded by the County Government of Kitui.

1.1. Committee membership

Mr Speaker Sir,

The Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services is currently constituted of the following members: -

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Judith Wanza Kasyoka | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Immaculate Wanza John | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Fridah Maua Mutinda | Member |
| 4. Hon. Jacinta Mary Mwoni | ” |
| 5. Hon. Munyoki Mwinzi | ” |
| 6. Hon. Erastus Musyoka Mbuno | ” |
| 7. Hon. Godfrey Muthengi Ndagara | ” |
| 8. Hon. Alphonse Mukwayu | ” |
| 9. Hon. Muthama Musyoka Kieti | ” |
| 10. Hon. Jeremiah Mutua | ” |
| 11. Hon. Zacchaeus Syengo | ” |

1.2. Committee's Mandate

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The select Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services 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.

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.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

It is now my pleasant duty, on behalf of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services, to present the committee report on assessment of /Inspection Exercise on the status of Lower Eastern Heritage Centre, Manyenyoni and Mutonguni Resource Centres and Mwitika Social Hall funded by the County Government of Kitui.

Thank you,

SIGNED



HON. JUDITH WANZA KASYOKA

CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, YOUTH, SPORTS, GENDER AND SOCIAL SERVICES

Date: 26/4/2024

CHAPTER TWO

2.0 BACKGROUND

Mr Speaker Sir,

In undertaking the inspection exercise, 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;

This role is further entrenched into our standing orders No; 190(5) (b) which provides that; *“Each Sectoral committee shall study the programme and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation”.*

In realization of the above objectives, the Liaison Committee in a meeting resolved that the Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services should present with immediate effect a comprehensive report on the status of the Lower Eastern Heritage Centre Gallery, Resources Centres and the Social Hall funded by the County Government of Kitui across the County.

Consequently, the committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services came up with a program for the inspection exercise which was carried out from 8th – 12th May, 2023 with a view to coming out with a detailed report to be tabled in this honourable house for adoption and thereafter forwarded to the county executive for implementation.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The five-day inspection exercise covered the following areas as shown in the itinerary below;

DATE	SUB-COUNTY	WARD	PROJECT
Monday 08/05/2023	Mwingi North	Tseikuru Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Eastern Heritage Centre Gallery.
Tuesday 09/05/2023	Mwingi Central	Kivou Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mwingi Resource Centre.
Wednesday 10/05/2023	Kitui West	Mutonguni Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mutonguni Resource Centre.
	Kitui Central	Township Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manyenyoni Resource Centre.
Thursday 11/05/2023	Kitui East	Zombe Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mwitika Social Hall.
Friday 12/05/2023	Kitui South	Mutomo Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyoani Resource Centre.

CHAPTER THREE

3.0 COMMITTEE FINDINGS.

Mr Speaker Sir,

On successful completion of the rigorous project's inspection exercise, the Committee made the following general observations as at the time of this inspection: -

3.1 LOWER EASTERN HERITAGE CENTRE - TSEIKURU WARD IN MWINGI NORTH SUB COUNTY.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

The Committee visited this facility on 8th May, 2023 and was received by Mr. Joseph Mwathe, a Ministry Official in charge of Mwingi North and the acting curator. According to Mr. Joseph, the facility is constructed on a land donated by the former Vice President H.E Hon. Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka. It is located next to his residence in Tseikuru and is the only Heritage Centre in Kitui, Makueni and Machakos Counties.

Construction of the facility was started by the National Government and later handed over to the County Government.

The objective of the project was to promote tourism on the southern savannah and enhance tourism circuit from Meru-Kora to Mwingi North Game Reserve.

The Centre is expected to create job opportunities to the youths of ukambani once it becomes operational.

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works of Gallery one.

Committee Findings from the Visit

- i. The National Government used total sum of Kshs **7,788, 320/=** to construct an ablution block with a septic tank within the compound, two offices within the gallery and walling of gallery one, before handing over the project to the County Government of Kitui.
- ii. The County Government has managed to undertake the construction of *Gallery One* in three(3) phases, and has had three contractors since taking over from the National Government;
 - *Phase one*; Main gate, sentry house and chain-link fence by **Marison G.T limited Company** at a total cost of **Kshs 1,355, 634/=** which was done and completed under the budgetary allocation of 2015/2016 financial year.
 - *Phase Two*; Roofing by **Genesis Two Limited** at a total cost of **Kshs 3,200, 000/=** which was done and completed under the budgetary allocation of 2019/2020 financial year
 - *Phase Three*; Electrical Installations and Finishing (Door's window panes, tiles and painting) by **Trimetu Enterprises Limited** at a total cost of **Kshs 2,752,600/=** under the budgetary allocation of 2019/2020 financial year.
- iii. The center lacks signage which is necessary to indicate the project name, client, and the contractor for accountability and awareness.
- iv. The facility lacks a V.I.P gate
- v. The roof of the main block was leaking.
- vi. Landscaping was not done.
- vii. The curator House had not been constructed

viii. The ticketing gate had not been fixed at the main gate.

Challenges facing the lower eastern heritage centre.

- For security purposes at night, the heritage centre has neither electricity nor solar energy lamps installed within the compound. This has led to the curator in-charge of the facility who doubles as the security officer to using candles instead.

3.2 MWINGI RESOURCE CENTRE-KIVOU WARD IN MWINGI CENTRAL SUB COUNTY.

The Committee visited this facility on 9th May, 2023 and was received by Ms. Everlyn Njeri, a Ministry Official in charge of Mwingi Central. The resource centre is located in Mwingi central and has a capacity of 1,200 people. It is the only County Government facility where people from the larger Mwingi can hold large meetings. The centre was constructed under the budgetary allocation of 2015/2016 financial year.

Contract Amount: Kshs. 30,646,135.00

Name of the Contractor: Bavko Engineering (K) Ltd

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works.

Committee Findings from the Visit

- i. The contractor completed the construction of the resource centre.
- ii. The facility was not fully operational.
- iii. The facility had no tables.
- iv. The V.I.P lounge wasn't fully equipped.
- v. The windows didn't have curtains.
- vi. The facility has a ultra-modern kitchen which was not operational.

- vii. A gate has been put up at the entrance and perimeter fencing has been done around the compound occupied by the resource centre. However, the fence was broken.
- viii. Poor workmanship of the latrines as they have no doors.
- ix. The water reservoir tanks had no water due to dilapidated water gutters.
- x. The facility had been equipped with 852 seats; (500 white in colour plastic chairs, 152 blue in colour plastic chairs and 200 red in colour executive seats).
- xi. Seats had not tagged thereby posing the risk of getting lost or stolen. These are government assets and asset tagging is vital in aiding asset management and tracking.
- xii. The resource centre is rented out to the public at a fee which is directly paid to the County Government of Kitui.
- xiii. There were no cleaning equipment at the resource centre.
- xiv. Some of the chairs purchased have never been assembled and had been kept in the store collecting dust.
- xv. Poor workmanship of the roof. Some parts of the ceiling had lost the white colour due to leaking roof.
- xvi. The centre lacked signage which is necessary to indicate the project details and ease of access.

Challenges Facing the Mwingi Resource Centre.

- i. Staffs at the resource centre use their own money to buy cleaning equipment and detergents in order to clean the resource centre since there is no petty cash / imprest to cater for such.

- ii. Sometimes seats are rented out without any payments.
- iii. The facility is faced with a problem of storm water due to poor landscaping.
- iv. The toilets are not operational due to lack of water.
- v. The kitchen isn't operational since its not equipped.
- vi. There is no imprest allocated by the Ministry to manage the facility.

3.3 MANYENYONI RESOURCE CENTRE-TOWNSHIP WARD IN KITUI CENTRAL SUB COUNTY.

The Committee visited this facility on 10th May, 2023 and was received by Mr. Munuve Ndete, Manyenyoni Village Administrator. The resource centre is located opposite Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) institute in Manyenyoni area -Township ward. The centre was to be constructed under the budgetary allocation of 2015/2016 financial year. However, construction work was suspended and due for re-tendering.

According to the Village Administrator, the Perimeter fencing around the compound was completed by Power Pump Technical Co. Ltd at a cost of **Ksh. 3,399,480**, an amount that had been fully paid to the contractor.

Committee Findings.

- i. There is no structural walling since construction was suspended at the foundation level.
- ii. The foundation slab is dilapidated while foundation columns have fallen off thereby exposing the rusty wires.
- iii. The Columns had been vandalized and other construction material on the site stolen.
- iv. There was no signage to indicate or show if the facility exists.

- v. The fence no longer exists.
- vi. The area where the facility lies has become bushy due to neglect.

Challenge Facing the Manyenyoni Resource Centre.

- i. There is no access road to the facility.

**3.4 MUTONGUNI RESOURCE CENTRE- MUTONGUNI WARD IN
KITUI WEST SUB COUNTY.**

The Committee visited this facility on 10th May, 2023 and was received by Mr. Daniel Nzoka, Mutonguni Village Administrator. The resource centre is located 2 kilometers (KM) from Tulia market in Mutonguni Ward. According to Mr. Nzoka. The centre was constructed under the budgetary allocation of 2015/2016 financial year but had been formerly been proposed by the defunct County Council of Kitui – LATIF. Works had been suspended following changes in Architectural plans. The Committee was informed of proposals to change the roofing plans from use of timber to using steel instead.

***Contract Amount:* Ksh. 8,676765.00**

***Name of the Contractor:* Teos Co. Ltd**

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works.

Committee Findings

- ii. The chief's office is located at the resource centre thereby offering security to the facility.
- iii. The compound is big enough and well maintained.
- iv. The masonry works of house structure were complete and roofed.

- v. Finishing was incomplete.

Challenge Facing the Mutonguni Resource Centre.

- i. The local residents were not aware of the resource centre as there is no signage to show whether the facility exists.
- ii. There was no ablution block at the resource centre.
- iii. The project stalled in 2017 due to non – payment.
- iv. The facility didn't have a fence and a gate.
- v. The facility didn't have an ablution block.

3.5 MWITIKA SOCIAL HALL – ZOMBE/MWITIKA WARD IN KITUI EAST SUB COUNTY.

The Committee visited this facility on 11th May, 2023 and was received by Mr. Mutua Malilu, Makongo/Kavingo Village Administrator. The resource centre is located in Zombe/Mwitika ward along the Zombe-Endau Road. It is easily accessible and near the market.

According to Mr. Mutua, the social hall was constructed under the budgetary allocation of 2015/2016 financial year.

Contract Amount: **Kshs. Not Provided**

Name of the Contractor: **Not provided**

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works.

Committee Findings.

- i. The contractor completed the construction of the social hall.
- ii. A gate put up at the entrance had fallen and perimeter fencing had been broken exposing the facility to trespassers and wandering animals.
- iii. The social hall was not equipped at all.

- iv. The facility is rented out to the community-based organizations for free.
- v. The hall was not connected to electricity
- vi. The village administrator is in charge of the facility and is the custodian of the keys to the social hall.
- vii. There was only one water reservoir tank within the facility.
- viii. There was no ablution block at the resource centre.
- ix. The market cleaners are periodically mobilized by the village administrator to clean the facility.
- x. The centre lacks signage which is necessary to indicate the project details and ease of access.

Challenge Facing the Mwitika Social Hall.

- i. There was no water and electricity at the facility.

3.6 KYOANI RESOURCE CENTRE- IKUTHA WARD IN KITUI SOUTH SUB COUNTY

The Committee visited this facility on 12th May, 2023 and was received by Mr. Patrick Makau, Kyoani Village Administrator. The resource centre is located in Ikutha ward along the Kitui - Kibwezi road. The centre was constructed under the budgetary allocation of 2015/2016 financial year. The resource centre was officially opened to the public early 2017.

Contract Amount: **Kshs. 30,900,938.40**

Name of the Contractor: **Muyo (K) Ltd.**

Scope of Work

- Structural and Electrical works.

Committee Findings.

- i. The contractor completed the construction of the resource centre.
- ii. A gate had been put up at the entrance and perimeter fencing had been done around the compound occupied by the resource centre.
- iii. There was a generator and security guard room constructed at the entrance.
- iv. There are six (6) 10,000litres water reservoir tanks with well fitted water gutters at the facility. However, one tank was reported to have busted due to heavy pressure.
- v. The other 5 water reservoir tanks had water.
- vi. The facility is operational and had been equipped with 850 seats; (500 plastic chairs, 200 metallic chairs, 100 red in colour executive seats and 50 semi-sofa sets).
- vii. The resource centre hosts Ikutha ward MCA's and Village administrator offices respectively.
- viii. Electricity was disconnected by the Kenya Power Officials in 2019 due to unpaid bills and lack of a meter.
- ix. The kitchen had not been equipped thus not serving its intended purpose.
- x. There was no cleaning equipment at the resource centre.
- xi. Some of the chairs purchased had never been assembled and have been kept in the store.
- xii. The rental charges depend on the number of people expected to be in attendance and is directly paid to the County Government of Kitui. However, the centre is rented out to the community-based organizations for free.
- xiii. There was a portion of ceiling that had fallen off.

- xiv. There was no ablution block at the resource centre.
- xv. The facility didn't have an exit gate.
- xvi. There was only one staff who works as the culture officer, daytime watchman and gateman at the centre.
- xvii. The centre lacks signage which is necessary to indicate the project details and ease of access.

Challenges Facing the Kyoani Resource Centre.

- i. The staff at the resource centre reported to have been using her own money to buy cleaning equipment and detergents in order to clean the resource centre. Imprest to cater for detergents and cleaning equipment was issued once in 2018.
- ii. There was no piped water.
- iii. Bats and termites are menace at the centre.
- iv. Sometimes seats are rented out without any payments done to County Government.
- v. The community has occasionally used their own chairs when using the facility despite chairs purchased by the County Government been kept in the store.
- vi. There was no a raised tank for flash toilets.
- vii. The facility had not been allocated enforcement officers to man it despite hosting the Village admins office.
- viii. The facility needed some bush clearing
- ix. The facility had not been connected to the main water supply.
- x. The facility lacked a pit latrine.
- xi. The facility had not been allocated cleaners.
- xii. The facility didn't have solar floodlights.

3.6 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

- i. There is Clear wastage of public resources.
- ii. Most resource centres have stalled while others are not equipped.
- iii. Some of the resource centres are alleged not to be equipped yet a good number of chairs purchased are collecting dust in rooms they were stored in.
- iv. Chairs are either not labelled properly or not labelled at all thereby exposing avenues of chairs getting lost or stolen.
- v. There is a general negligence of duty in relation to social halls that were supposed to give/offer service to people thereby leading to misuse/wastage of public resources.
- vi. The resource centres are poorly maintained and repair works have never been carried out/undertaken. This shows how the ministry of culture lacks seriousness in managing the resource centres.
- vii. The ministry has intentionally decided not give attention to the resource centres leaving social halls therefore leading to wastage of public of resources.

CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr Speaker Sir,

In respect to the above findings and observations, the Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender, and Social Services makes the following recommendations;

- (i) That the County Ministry of Culture, Youth, Sports, Social Services suspends construction of Manyenyoni Resource Centre and re-route any funds allocated for that project towards equipping and operationalization of Kyoani and Mwingi resource centers. The ministry should also ensure a quick resolve to the issues halting development of Mutonguni Resource Centre.
- (ii) That tree planting, around the perimeter and also within the compound commences immediately for Kyoani Resource Centre. Further, in the next financial year, 2024/2025, the County Government should consider purchasing an adjacent additional piece of land to increase the size of the compound that can accommodate a large number of people during events.
- (iii) That upon completion, sections of Kyoani and Mwingi resource centres be subleased to either private or Government entities that will offer public services to residents e.g. *Huduma Centre*. This Committee considers these facilities misplaced priorities with Kyoani resource centre remotely located. For these reasons, it may take a number of years before these facilities becomes self-sustaining as fully-fledged resource centres.

- (iv) Considering the perennial water scarcity experienced in larger parts of this County, the County Ministry of Culture, Youth, Sports, Social Services must consider allocating funds towards providing water harvesting measures at the Kyoani and Mwingi Resource Centres.
- (v) That the County Department of Culture and Social Services in collaboration with the County Ministry of Works ensures that proper ramps and rails to cater for PLWDs are erected at the main entrances to all Resource Centres.

5.0 CONCLUSION.

Mr. Speaker,

These projects under the ministry of Culture, Youth, Sports and Social Services have immense socio-economic potential whereby, if prudently managed, could be of benefit to both the residents and the County Government of Kitui.

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.

Mr. Speaker,

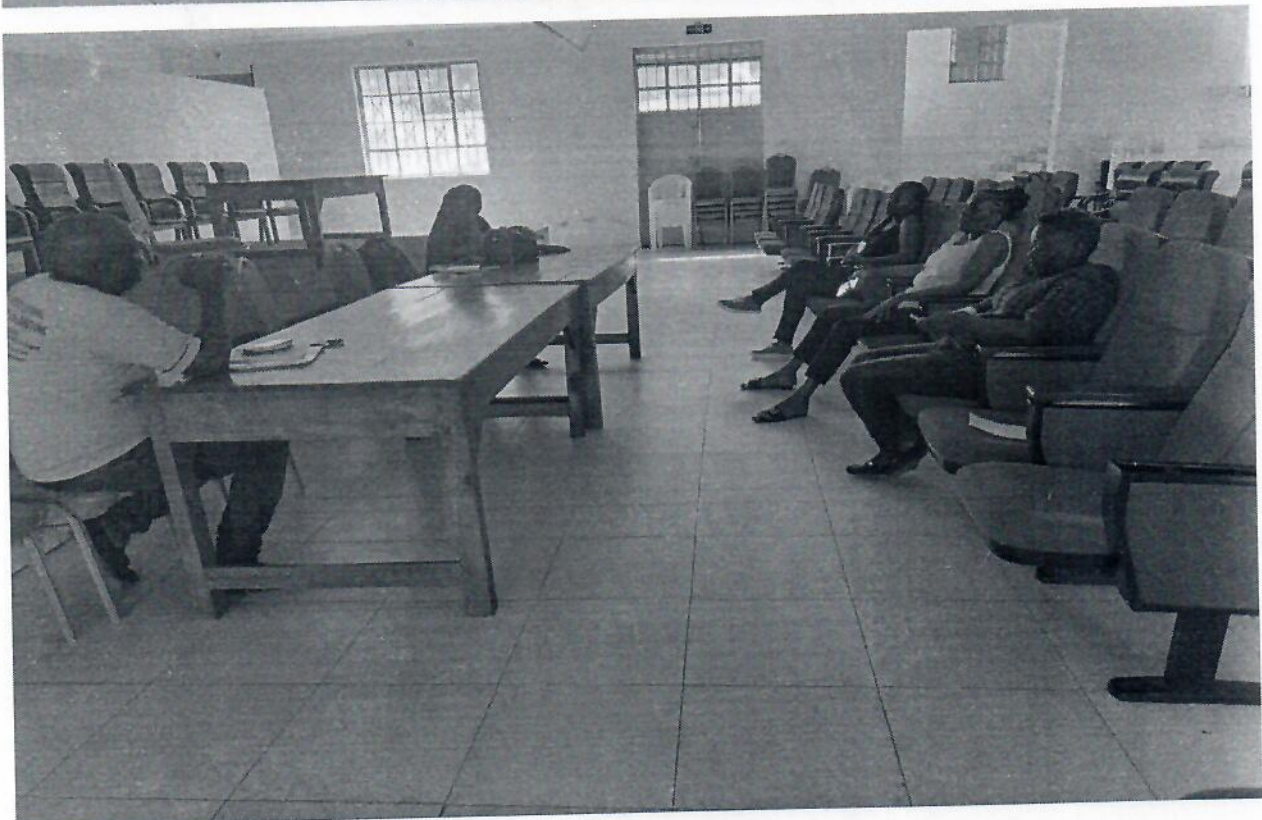
It's important to note that after the Committee did her inspection of the Resource Centres and Social Halls, the Ministry released to the contractors the LSOs completion of these works. For instance, Mwingi and Kyoani Resource Centers and Mwitika Social Hall were contracted for completion and equipping. Therefore, this report is as at the time of inspection and the Committee requests to be given some time to update this house with the current status of the facilities.

ANNEX I

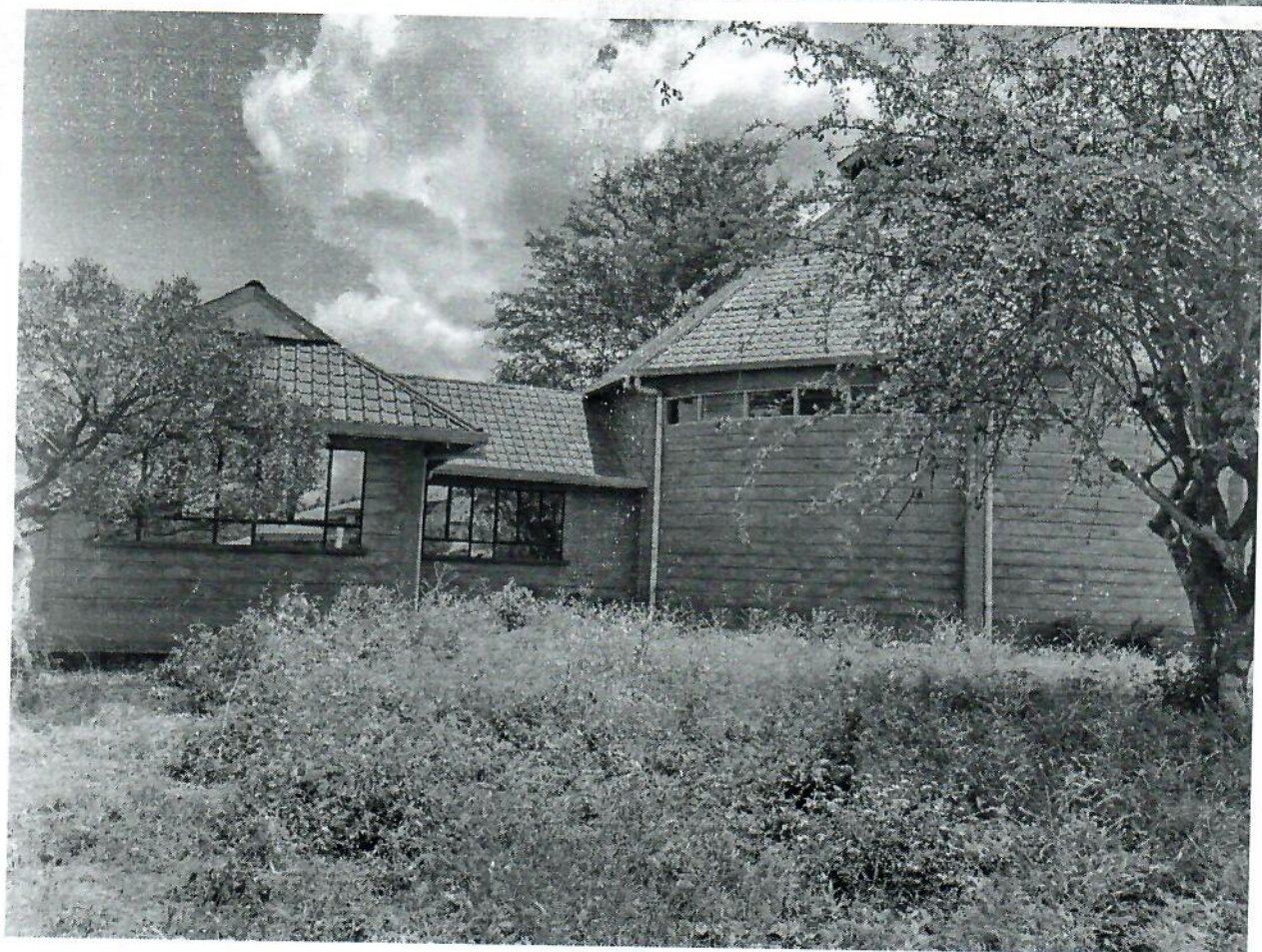
We, honourable members of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services, do hereby affix our signatures to this report to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity: -

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DESIGNATION</u>	<u>SIGNATURE</u>
1. Hon. Judith Wanza Kasyoka	Chairperson	
2. Hon. Immaculate Wanza John	Vice Chairperson	-----
3. Hon. Fridah Maua Mutinda	Member	
4. Hon. Jacinta Mary Mwoni	"	
5. Hon. Munyoki Mwinzi	"	
6. Hon. Erastus Musyoka Mbuno	"	
7. Hon. Godfrey Muthengi Ndagara	"	
8. Hon. Alphonse Musyimi	"	
9. Hon. Muthama Musyoka Kieti	"	
10. Hon. Jeremiah Mutua	"	-----
11. Hon. Zacchaeus Syengo	"	

PHOTO GALLERY



Committee members inspecting Mwingi Resource Centre



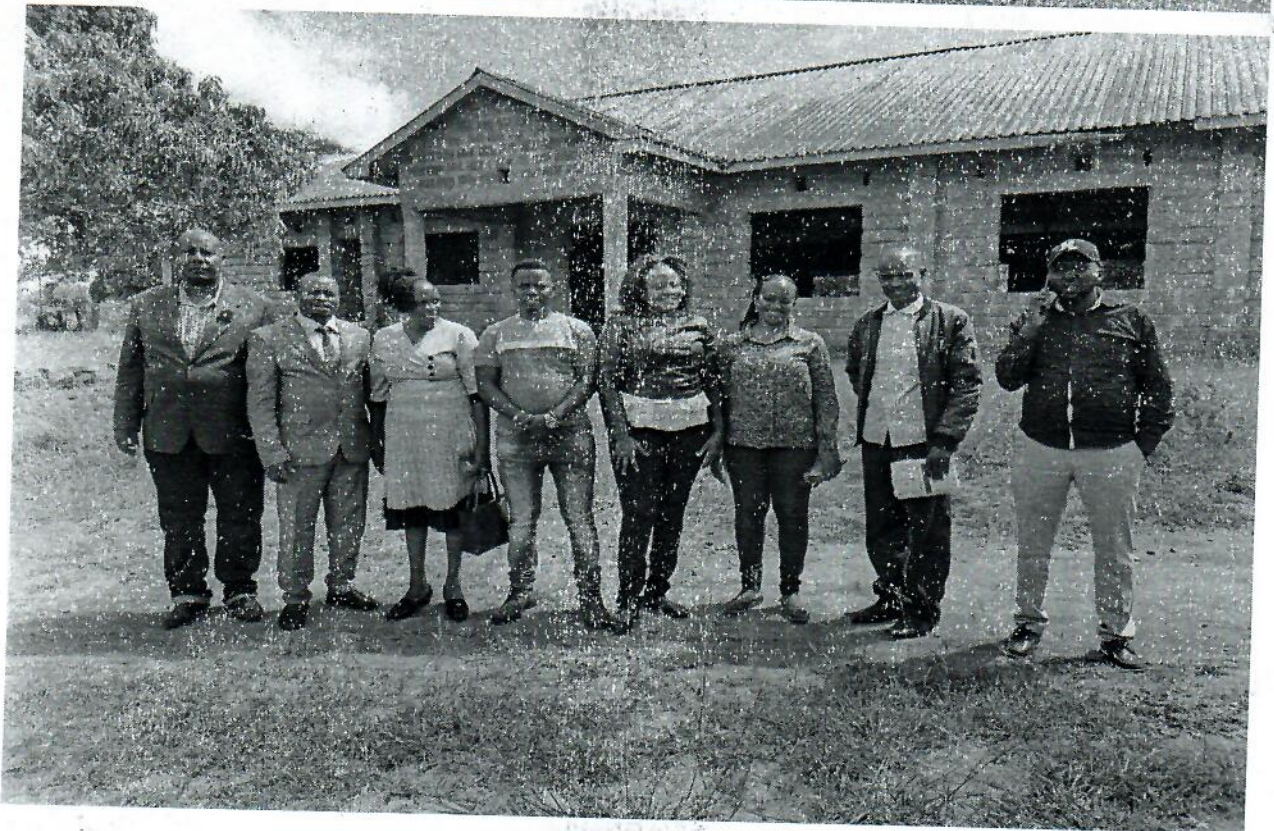
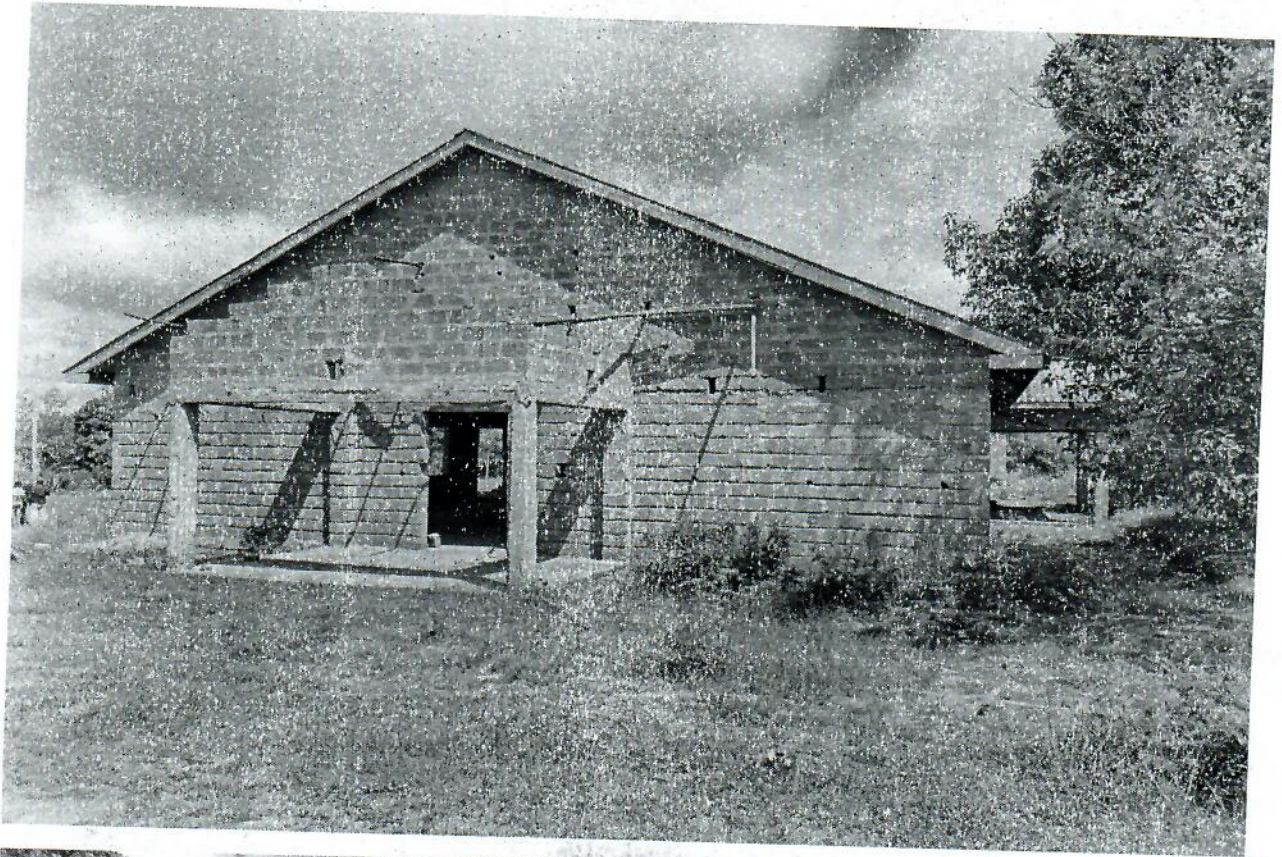


Committee members inspecting the Lower Eastern Heritage Centre.





Committee members inspecting the Manyenyoni Resource Centre.

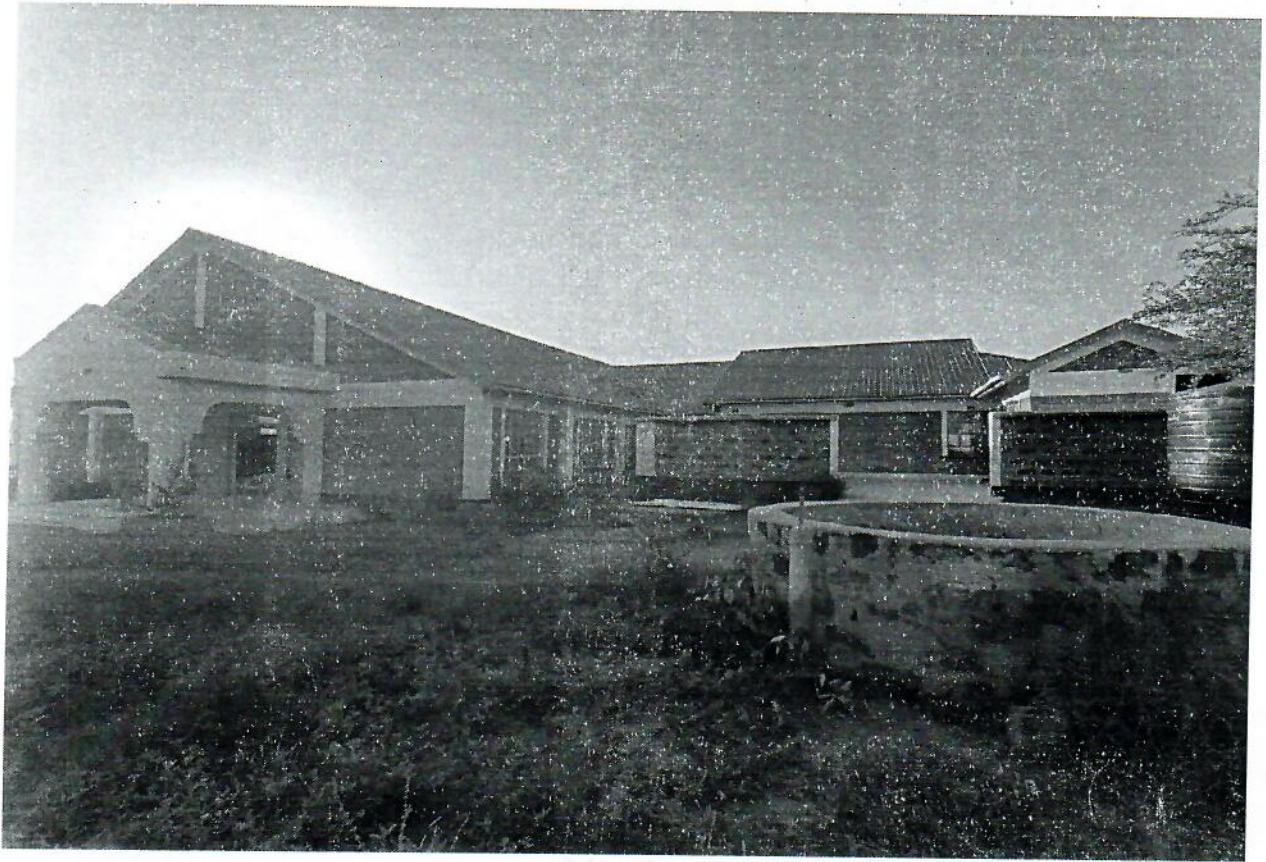




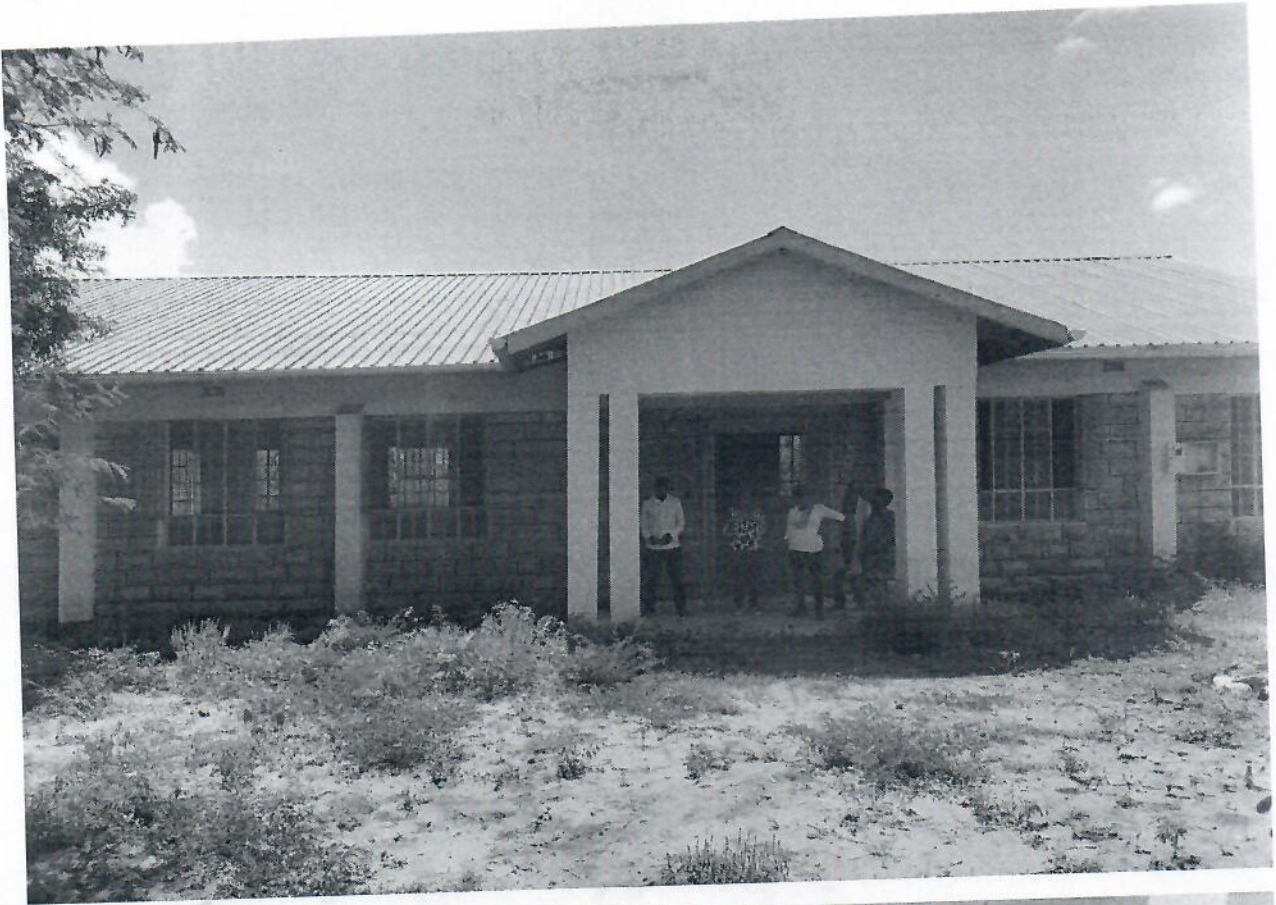
Committee members inspecting the Mutonguni Resource Centre.

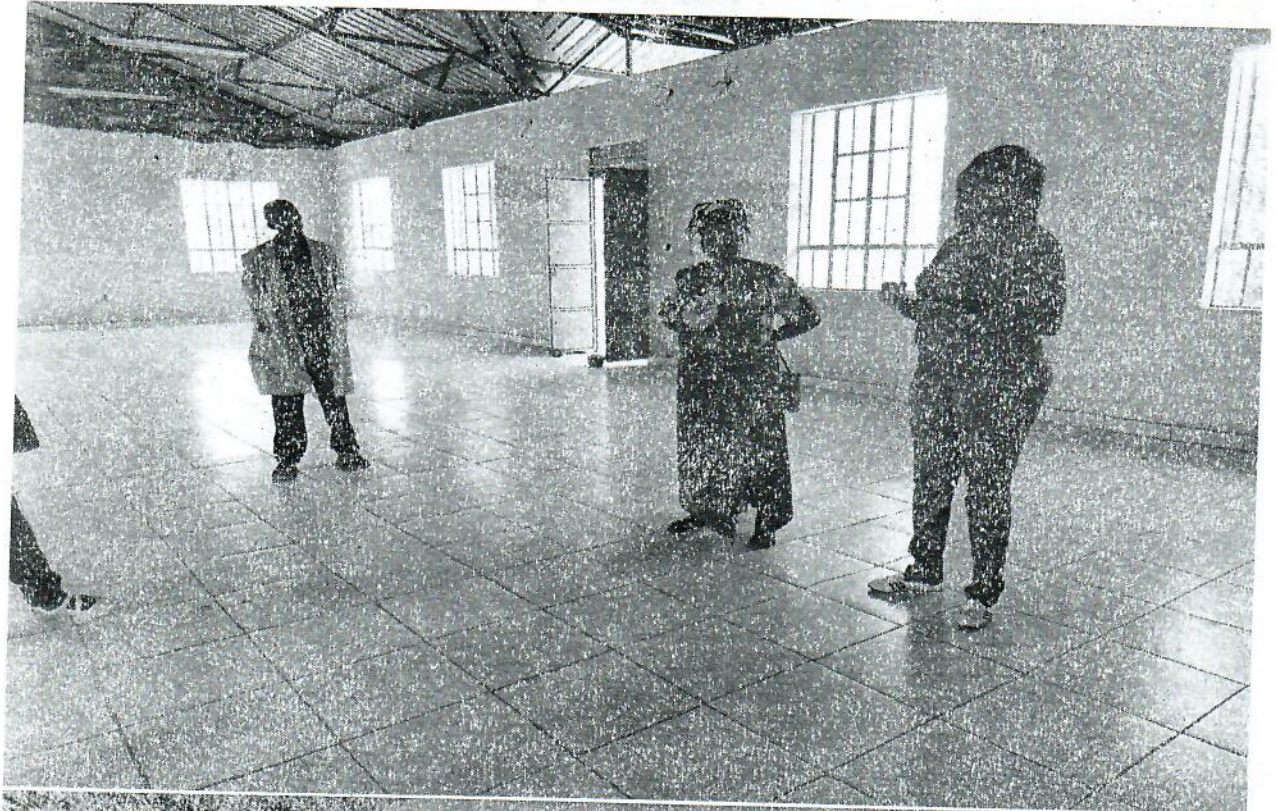






Committee members inspecting the Kyoani Resource Centre.





Committee members inspecting Mwitika Social Hall.