

## Beating The Virus

**Education Ministry to review calendar to curb disruptions**

# Virus infections rise in schools triggers fears of mass spread

Bahati Girls had highest number in a single school yesterday at 68

BY NATION TEAM

**M**ore than 145 learners across the country have tested positive for Covid-19 since schools partially reopened on October 12.

More than 50 teachers and tens of support staff have also tested positive. Two teachers are reported to have died from Covid-19-related complications.

Yesterday, 68 students and five teachers tested positive for Covid-19 in Bahati Girls Secondary School in Nakuru County, the highest number in a single school.

County Health executive Kariuki Gichuki confirmed the figures, adding that one student developed complications and was rushed to the Nakuru Level Five Hospital. She is admitted to the isolation and management centre at the facility.

"A medical team has been dispatched to monitor the condition of the students and teachers," said Dr Gichuki. A further 115 students have been placed in quarantine in the school and more samples were collected for testing.

He added that a special team from his department continues to conduct Covid-19 prevention and management for learning institutions across the county.

Nakuru Public Health chief officer Samuel King'ori said wearing of masks remains mandatory until the spread of the virus is fully contained.

"Let this be a warning to everybody who carelessly walks around in public without a face mask. They will be arrested and prosecuted," he warned.

Nakuru County acting director of education Geoffrey Kimani said the outbreak was discovered by health officials.

This comes days after 52 students tested positive at Kolanaya Salvation Army Boys High school in Busia, Teso North Sub-county.

On Wednesday, at least four cases were reported in two secondary schools in Kakamega County; three at St Peter's Boys' Secondary in Mumias and one at St Mary's Girls' Secondary.

Health executive Collins Matamba said the students had been placed under isolation and were all in a stable condition.

"We are closely monitoring the situation in our schools to ensure measures are put in place to deal with any cases of infections



A health official fumigates a school dormitory on October 2. The rising number of Covid-19 in schools since they were reopened has sparked concerns. FILE INATION

### Worry as numbers continue to surge

Other schools that have reported Covid-19 cases include: Jamhuri High School, Nairobi (6), Tononoka Secondary, Mombasa (16 teachers), Star of the Sea Secondary, Mombasa (4), Mama Ngina Primary, Kiambu (11 teachers), St Peter's Boys' Mumias (5), St Mary's Girls', Kakamega (one), Eregei TTC (3 support staff), Kegochi High, Kisii (one teacher and one non-teaching staff), St Alexander Nyamacheo, Kisii (one teacher), Maranda High (11), Central Primary School, Siaya (one), Friends School Kamusinga (one) Muuman-du Secondary, Machakos (one).

detected to avert further spread of the virus," he said. At Eregei Teachers Training College, three non-teaching staff have tested positive, while in Taita Taveta County Voi Primary School was closed down Wednesday after three teachers tested positive.

County director of education Samson Wanjohi said contacts

of the three teachers had been asked to isolate at home as they waited for results, adding that learning is going on uninterrupted in other schools.

Health executive John Mwakima said the department has recommended the closure of the school to prevent further spread of the virus.

Meanwhile, the Education ministry says it will review the school calendar to avoid further disruptions.

"I am still hopeful that as school resumes in January, we shall be able to rearrange the timetable in such a way that the children do not lose the whole academic year," Cabinet Secretary George Magoha said yesterday at Maragua Ridge Secondary School in Murang'a County as he inspected delivery of desks.

He said the Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC) is working on the new examination timetable for KCPE and KCSE candidates and urged schools to health regulations.

"I want to commend the teachers as the schools I have visited and they have done the best to ensure social distancing and hand-washing points and sanitisers," he noted

Reporting by Phyllis Musasia, Lucy Mkanyika, Benson Amadala, and Martin Mwaura



## SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE (SPN) Invitation for Bids

MINISTRY OF WATER & SANITATION AND IRRIGATION

CENTRAL RIFT VALLEY WATER WORKS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

ON BEHALF OF LAKE VICTORIA NORTH WATER WORKS DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

KENYA TOWNS SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROGRAMME

Last Mile Connectivity Works for Eldoret and Kakamega Towns;  
Lot II - Kakamega Town

Loan/Financing N<sup>o</sup>: 200200000501

IFB N<sup>o</sup>: RVWWD/ LVN/AFDB/KTSWSSP/W/KAKAMEGA/2019 - 2020

- This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice (GPN) for this Project that appeared in UNDB online on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017.
- The Government of Kenya has received financing from the African Development Bank in various currencies towards financing the Kenya Towns Sustainable Water Supply and Sanitation Programme. It is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be applied to eligible payments under the contract for **Last Mile Connectivity Works for Eldoret and Kakamega Towns; Lot II - Kakamega Town**.
- Central Rift Valley Water Works Development Agency, one of the executing agencies of the programme, now invites on behalf of Lake Victoria North Water Works Development Agency, sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the execution of the above project under one lot.
- Scope
  - Extension/Augmentation of water distribution network involving laying HDPE pipelines, total length 15,689m, diameters ranging from 90 - 160mm;
  - Rehabilitation of sewers total length 1,798m, diameters ranging from 160 - 315mm;
  - Rehabilitation of Shirere Wastewater Treatment Plant involving Installation of flow measurement device;
  - Rehabilitation of Masinde Muliro University (MMUST) Wastewater Treatment Plant involving:
    - Installation of flow measurement device;
    - Fencing of the ponds;
    - Installation of power line to the office building
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of **the Chief Executive Officer, Central Rift Valley Water Works Development Agency, Maji Plaza, Prison Road, off Nakuru - Eldama Ravine Highway, and P.O. Box 2451-20100 Nakuru, Kenya**, during office hours (8.00am to 5.00pm Kenyan Time) on week days except public holidays.
- A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **KES 1,000 (Kenya Shillings One Thousand Only)**.
- Procurement will be in accordance with the Bank's **"Procurement Policy for Bank Group Funded Operations"** dated October 2015, using the Bank's Procurement Methods and Procedures for Open Competitive Bidding (international advertising). The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and in the General Conditions are the provisions of the African Development Bank Standard Bidding Document for Procurement of Works.
- Bidders are invited for a **Pre-Tender Site Meeting** to be held at **Kakamega County Water and Sanitation Company Offices in Kakamega Town on 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 at 10.00am (Kenyan Time)** for any clarifications. Thereafter, site visits shall be organized to the proposed sites in **Kakamega Town** on the same day starting at **11.00 a.m.**
- Bids must be delivered to the above office on or before **12.00pm Kenyan Time on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2020** and must be accompanied by a security (**Unconditional Bank Guarantee**) of **KES 500,000 (Five Hundred Thousand Shillings Only)**, with a bid validity period of 120 days from bid submission date.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at **12.05pm Kenyan Time on 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2020** at the offices of:

**The Chief Executive Officer,  
Central Rift Valley Water Works Development Agency  
Maji Plaza, Prisons Road  
Off Nakuru - Eldama Ravine Highway  
P.O. Box 2451-20100  
Nakuru, Kenya  
Tel: +254 718 313 557  
Email: [info@rvwwda.go.ke](mailto:info@rvwwda.go.ke)**