

Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority (TARDA)

# TARDA NEWS

## TANA AND ATHI RIVERS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

# ISSUE NO. 11 | JUNE 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

# MINISTRY OF EAC, THE ASALS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

TARDA CELEBRATES WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY



This year's World Environment Day marked a significant milestone in our commitment to environmental stewardship as we celebrated it in style at various sites across the country. The national celebrations were held at Embu University on June 5<sup>th</sup> 2024 and was graced by esteemed dignitaries led by CS Environment, Climate Change, and Forestry, Hon. Soipan Tuya EGH. Our collaboration with the Machakos County Government, Nyandarua County Government, and other county governments for their celebrations showcased a united front in addressing crucial issues such as "Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience."

Further, our collective efforts made a tangible difference across multiple sites in Nairobi County, including Njiru Mixed Secondary School, Brookside Kenya's Ruai Treatment Plant, Kenya Veterinary Vaccines Production Institute (KEVEVAPI) in Industrial Area, City Park, Kamulu Market and Ndia Park. Additionally, the tree planting activities at the Tana Delta Irrigation Project Nursery aligned perfectly with this year's theme of promoting sustainable development and environmental conservation.



TARDA was honored to participate in the dissemination of the Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) 2023-2027 led by Cabinet Secretary Ministry of EAC, The ASALs & Regional Development Hon. Peninah Malonza and the National Treasury. The event was held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024 at KEFFRI Kitui where stakeholders gathered to delve into the theme "Bottom-Up Economic Transformative Agenda for Inclusive Growth."

Elsewhere, in Machakos County, TARDA participated in the Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP 4) 2023-2027 dissemination held at Machakos University. Among other participants were the National Government, County Government of Machakos, Chamber of Commerce, County Assembly, Development Partners, Non-State Actors, Civil Societies, Public/Community Organizations and more.

TARDA remains steadfast in its mission to support and implement the visionary initiatives outlined in MTP IV, aimed at uplifting communities and fostering a prosperous future for all.

### **CELEBRATING TARDA'S 50 YEARS WITH THE WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2024 TOURNAMENT!**



TARDA kicked off the World Environment Day Conservation Tournament in Embu between 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> June 2024, in conjunction with Nema Kenya, Embu County Government and Teens Voice Africa. It was also an opportunity for the Authority to celebrate TARDA At 50 which was more than just a celebration—it was testament to our ongoing commitment to conserving our natural resources and fostering a greener future for all.

NEMA Kenya Vice Chair, Sophia Matura kicked off a ball to signify the start of the World Environment Day Soccer Tournament, which consisted of other activities that included Tree Planting Initiatives Environmental Awareness Campaigns and Fun Sports Activities

By participating in this tournament, we reaffirmed our dedication to these critical issues and celebrating the positive impact we've made as an Authority over the past five decades.

TARDA PARTICIPATES IN ROUNDTABLE AIMED AT FAST TRACKING TDIP PROJECT



Led by Managing Director Mr. Liban Roba TARDA attended a meeting convened by the Head of Public Service aimed at fast-tracking the TARDA-led Tana Delta Irrigation PPP Project on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Various stakeholders present during the meeting included; Engineer Joseph Mbugua, Principal Secretary of Roads; Engineer Philemon Kandie, Director-General of Kenya Rural Roads Authority; Dr. Erustus Kanga, Director-General of Kenya Wildlife Service; Priscilla Motchako, Director at Agri All Africa; Engineer James Muriuki from Rural Electrification & Renewable Energy Corporation - Kenya; Through such key collaborations we are not only aiming to cultivate land but also to cultivate hope, resilience and sustainable growth for our communities residing within the Tana Delta.

### **CHAMPIONING INCLUSIVITY IN CONSERVATION**





TARDA was honoured to participate in an activity aimed at championing the involvement of people with disabilities hosted by the Machakos Abled Different Self-Help Group in Muvuti /Kiima Kimwe Ward at the Machakos County Scouts Centre in climate action. The Authority was invited by Tuboreshe Pamoja who are intentional in ensuring the active involvement of people with disabilities in climate action is not just a matter of fairness but also a strategic advantage for creating a resilient and inclusive future.

Other partners were present at the event held on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024 were Gelian Hotel Machakos, Semara Hotels, National Council for Persons with Disabilities, Machakos County Government as well as the Kenya Wildlife Service.

TARDA is committed to ensuring active participation of people with disabilities in all our initiatives, particularly those focused on climate action.

STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION: MACHAKOS HODs' RETREAT HIGHLIGHTS



TARDA was honored to participate in the Machakos County HODs' Retreat and Team Building session held at Fanela Gardens on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024. The gathering brought together a diverse group of participants including representatives from National Government Administration, County Government, TARDA, NEMA, KFS, WARMA, MET, NTSA, Machakos University, KWS, KeNHA, and NDMA. Together, they meticulously reviewed and discussed various performance metrics, focusing on areas such as catchment conservation, soil and water conservation, tree planting initiatives, agro-forestry capacity building, stakeholder engagement strategies, and the inclusion of marginalized groups like youths, community-based organizations, and persons with disabilities, among other topics.

This retreat underscored TARDA's commitment to collaboration, environmental stewardship, and community engagement, reaffirming its role in driving sustainable development and fostering inclusive growth in Machakos County and beyond.

TARDA ENGAGES WITH NYANDARUA COUNTY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COLLABORATION



On 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024 TARDA's Eng. Henry Maina recently led a productive courtesy visit to Nyandarua County Government Offices, meeting with Deputy Governor Mr. Mathaara Mwangi and CEC for Water, Natural Resources, Environment and Climate Change, Mr. Samuel Mugo, accompanied by our committed technical team.

The teams-initiated discussions on several potential collaboration areas, with a particular emphasis on the Aberdare Tower Catchment Restoration project. Given its environmental significance, the restoration effort will cover 27,000 hectares, aiming to plant approximately 43,000,000 seedlings. This ambitious project underscores our joint commitment to environmental conservation and sustainable resource management.

TARDA remains focused on enhancing our collaborative efforts and championing the positive changes we strive to bring about through these partnerships.

#### TARDA CELEBRATES THE DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD IN MACHAKOS



On 16<sup>th</sup> June 2024, TARDA proudly joined hands with other organizations to celebrate the Day of the African Child at the Masaku School for the Physically Disabled convened by Tuboreshe Pamoja, The Alaika Group and Forum For African Women Educationalists- Kenya Chapter. This year's theme, "Education for all Children in Africa: The Time is Now," highlighted the urgent need for inclusive and accessible education across the continent, ensuring that no child is left behind.

TARDA made a substantial contribution by donating 50 fruit trees and 200 assorted agro-forest tree seedlings, symbolizing our ongoing commitment to fostering a greener environment and supporting local communities. Our participation in this event underscores TARDA's dedication to creating sustainable and inclusive development opportunities.

EMBRACING INNOVATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: TARDA AT THE KENYA SPACE EXPO CONFERENCE 2024 IN NAIROBI



TARDA was honoured to attend the recently concluded Kenya Space Expo Conference 2024 which ran from 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> June 2024 hosted by the Kenya Space Agency which was a transformative experience, showcasing cutting-edge advancements in satellite technology and data analytics.

The insights gained from space technologies will also inform better planning and development of infrastructure projects. This integration of advanced technology into our infrastructure projects will lead to more robust and future-proof developments.

Attending the Kenya Space Expo Conference 2024 has positioned TARDA at the forefront of innovation, ready to integrate these groundbreaking technologies for the betterment of our environment and communities. The knowledge and tools gained from this conference will help us drive forward our mission of sustainable development and environmental stewardship.