



**REMARKS BY H.E. GOVERNOR PATRICK KETURET OLE NTUTU ON THE OCCASION
OF THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 61ST MADARAKA DAY CELEBRATIONS AT THE
WILLIAM OLE NTIMAMA STADIUM IN NAROK TOWN WARD, NAROK NORTH
SUB-COUNTY**

1ST JUNE, 2024

County Commissioner Mr. Reuben Lotiatia,
Members of Parliament present,
Our host MP,
Speaker of our County Assembly,
Majority and Minority Leaders,
Distinguished members of our County Assembly,
CECMs present,
County Staff,
Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Happy Madaraka Day!

1. We are grateful to God for enabling us to gather here today to commemorate this important day in our national calendar.



2. Ladies and Gentlemen, on this day, 61 years ago, our country Kenya attained internal self-rule from her colonial masters. The struggle for independence in Kenya is well documented in our history books and we are eternally grateful to our freedom fighters for granting us the fundamental freedom of self-governance that we are enjoying today. Our sole duty, therefore, is to continue working towards developing our country for ourselves and for generations to come.
3. Upon assuming office in September, 2022, H.E. President William Ruto, introduced thematic celebration of public holidays. For this Madaraka day, we are focusing on and creating awareness on Agriculture and Food Security.
4. In this regard, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development organized a five-day pre-Madaraka day exhibition on Agriculture and Food Security at Masinde Muliro Stadium in Bungoma county. I am glad that as a County Government, we have been part of this exhibition.
5. My administration, through the department of agriculture, sponsored 140 youths in the agribusiness industry from our County for this exhibition. I believe that the knowledge gained from this benchmarking activity will be instrumental in elevating the agribusiness landscape in our County and provide market linkages for our agricultural produce.



6. Narok county is a leader in agricultural production contributing about 48% of the county economy and sustaining livelihoods of over 90% of the county population. In order to reap the full benefits of the agriculture sector, my administration will continue working with development partners to ensure that we revolutionize our agriculture sector and optimize our production.
7. On working with development partners, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me take this opportunity to appreciate all the partners who have continued working with us in this sector. My gratitude goes to the Kenya Agricultural Business Development Program (KABDP); the Agricultural Sector Development Support Program (ASDSP II); the De-risking, Inclusion and Value Enhancement (DRIVE) program; and the National Agriculture Value Chain Development Project (NAVCDP).
8. Indeed, you have shown us a perfect example of what we can achieve when we all work together. Through improved market access for targeted agricultural priority value chains in the project areas, we have not only increased employment opportunities and incomes but also improved food and nutrition security among the people of Narok. I am confident that through our support to the various value chains including beef, dairy, maize, potatoes, tomatoes, avocado and improved chicken, we will be able to improve, commercialize, industrialize and completely revolutionize our Agriculture sector.



9. Ladies and Gentlemen, allow me to mention a particular aspect of the NAVCDP program that will be focusing on matters youth engagement in agriculture. It is quite encouraging to know that 210 Agripreneuers will be engaged in this program with 7 (seven) agripreneuers drawn from each Ward. These Agripreneuers will be trained on agricultural business opportunities and financial skills. Thereafter, they will assist the public agricultural extension sector to reach out to the registered farmers who are mobilized in groups and train them on good agricultural practices.
10. My administration is committed to supporting our young people to ensure that we have a safe and thriving society both now and in the future. In the recently concluded farmer's registration exercise, my administration engaged 453 youths in undertaking the exercise which resulted in enlisting of over 155,382 farmers across the county.
11. As we work towards improving agricultural production and achieving food security in line with today's theme, let me mention that Narok county has vast investment opportunities in the crop production, livestock and Fisheries development sectors. We are ready to partner with like-minded development partners and investors to ensure that we exploit these opportunities and grow our agriculture industry.
12. Once again, let me wish you all a Happy Madaraka Day and may God Bless Narok County.



H.E. Patrick Keturet Ole Ntutu
Governor, Narok County

