

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES



**AGRICULTURE SECTOR DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT PROGRAMME  
(ASDSP)**

**NYAMIRA COUNTY**

**DEPUTY GOVERNOR H.E.AMOS NYARIBO'S SPEECH ON BANANA  
VALUE CHAIN PROJECT LAUNCHING**

**AT NYAMUSI DIVISIONAL HQ**

**The County Commissioner,**

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

**Wakulima wote**

**GOOD AFTERNOON?**

**Background information**

**The Agricultural Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP)** is a sector wide programme formulated by the Kenya's agricultural sector ministries and co-funded by Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and Government of Kenya (GOK). The Programme covers the entire County. It has been under implementation from 2013 and will run for five (5) years in the initial phase.

The Programme Goal is **to support transformation of the agricultural sector into an innovative, commercially oriented, competitive and modern industry** that will contribute to poverty reduction and improved food security and equity in rural and urban Nyamira.

The Programme in collaboration with stakeholders identified and prioritized agricultural enterprises in the County, through public participation using a specific prioritization tool. The Banana enterprise emerged 2<sup>nd</sup> in the priority list, after dairy.

The Programme (ASDSP) supported the formation of Priority Value Chain Platform at the County, Sub-County and ward levels. I want to emphasize the important roles played by these structures in spearheading the development of the value chains in the county in terms of resource mobilization and implementation of action plans.

The overall objective of the County banana project is **to contribute towards increased production and productivity of bananas through innovative and inclusive value chain technologies.**

### **STRATEGY**

The County government, in collaboration with the Banana value chain actors and the programme (A S D S P) has the pleasure to launch the Banana project today.

It is my hope that this project will improve the livelihoods of the beneficiaries through **increased incomes, employment and improved food security.**

**In this programme beneficiary groups will benefit through:**

- **Training** on modern banana agronomic practices
- **Provision of clean planting** materials (suckers)
- **Organized marketing** of the produce
- **Accessing of clean banana planting** material within the county
- **Value addition:** the county government will support connecting power to the agro-processing facility and grade the road to the same facility

As you may be aware **over 200 groups** have already benefitted from the provision of **over 20,000 plantlets** by the county Government and we are

targeting **additional 20,000 plantlets to be issued to 200 farmer groups** in this financial year.

The County government has laid down **plans to establish a banana biotechnology laboratory** in the county, to ensure steady supply of clean banana planting material to our farmers. We have already set aside funds to put up **20 tissue culture banana hardening nurseries**. This will go a long way to ensuring availability of clean planting material for our farmers at affordable cost.

The County Government is aware of a very important **agro processing facility** in this ward which is **currently underutilized due to lack of power**. We are pursuing the connection of electricity to this facility to maximize its usage.

I want to acknowledge the various development partners and Collaborators in the county banana industry:

1. Agriculture Sector Development Support Programme (ASDSP)
2. Africa Harvest
3. Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute (KIRDI)
4. Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO)
5. World Vision
6. Nyamira County Value Chain Platform (VCP)
7. East Africa Market Development Associates (EAMDA)
8. Banana growers association (BGAK)
9. Kenya National Farmers Federation (KENAFF)

**Their contributions to this industry is appreciated and valued as we all walk together the banana value chain journey.**

We have come here today to launch the Banana project for Nyamira County

**I therefore take this opportunity to declare the banana project officially Launched**