



MINISTRY OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ROADS



BEYOND THE HIGHWAY

A Publication of the State Department for Roads



Merry Christmas

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From the Principal Secretary's Desk



As we mark this festive season, I extend my warmest Christmas greetings to all colleagues, agencies, stakeholders and partners within the roads sub-sector. This is a moment to reflect with gratitude on the remarkable progress we have achieved together throughout 2025.

This year, our collective commitment and unwavering teamwork enabled us to deliver a host of transformative road projects that have strengthened seamless connectivity, opened new economic corridors, and improved mobility for millions of Kenyans. Your professionalism, resilience, and dedication have been central to these achievements, and I deeply appreciate every effort made in service to our nation.

As we look ahead to 2026, I am confident that we will build on this momentum to accelerate the delivery of world-class infrastructure, enhance regional integration, and support the Government's broader development agenda. Let us carry forward the spirit of collaboration and excellence that continues to define our sub-sector.

During this holiday season, I appeal to all road users to prioritise safety, exercise caution, patience, and responsibility on our roads. Safety is a shared duty, and together, we can prevent avoidable loss of life and ensure that every journey ends safely.

I wish you and your families a joyful Christmas and a prosperous, peaceful, and productive New Year 2026.

Eng. Joseph Mbugua, CBS
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

Cabinet Approves National Infrastructure Fund to Drive Kenya's Ksh5 Trillion Transformation Agenda

BY ESTHER KARURI



Cabinet meeting chaired by H.E President William Ruto at State House Nairobi on 16th December, 2025.

Kenya has taken a decisive step towards its KSh5 trillion transformation agenda and ambition of becoming a first-world economy following Cabinet approval of the National Infrastructure Fund and the Sovereign Wealth Fund at State House Nairobi on 16th December, 2025.

The approval marks a major shift in the financing and delivery of large-scale public infrastructure, moving away from heavy reliance on borrowing and taxation towards an investment-led, market-driven model designed to crowd in private capital.

Structured as a limited liability company, the National Infrastructure Fund will serve as the central vehicle for financing priority public infrastructure projects. It will be overseen by a competitively appointed board of directors and a chief executive officer to ensure strong governance, transparency and commercial discipline.

Through innovative mobilisation of domestic resources, strategic monetisation of mature public assets, and broader participation through capital markets, the Fund is expected to unlock substantial private sector investment. Under the new framework, all proceeds from privatisation will be ring-fenced exclusively for infrastructure projects that generate long-term public value.

[Continued on Page 2]

In the transport sector, the Government plans to dual 2,500 kilometres of highways, tarmac 28,000 kilometres of roads, extend the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) to Malaba, expand regional oil pipelines, and modernise airports alongside the ports of Mombasa and Lamu.

These investments are expected to significantly strengthen connectivity between farms, industries, cities and regional markets, boosting productivity, trade and competitiveness.

To support priority transport projects, Cabinet also approved an innovative financing model targeting flagship developments, including the Naivasha–Kisumu SGR Phase 2B, the SGR link to Uganda, the Nairobi Railway City Central Station, Bus Rapid Transit Lines 2 and 3, expanded commuter rail services, and enhanced non-motorised transport infrastructure.

In a major boost to the construction sector, Cabinet noted that all pending bills for certified works and accrued interest within the Ministry of Roads up to 31 December 2024 have been fully settled. The Ministry has paid KSh123 billion, restoring contractor confidence and enabling stalled projects to resume. Since April 2025, the payment programme has unlocked or accelerated 875 road contracts nationwide.

Overall, the approvals signal a decisive shift towards a sustainable, investment-led development model aimed at accelerating infrastructure delivery, preserving national value, and securing lasting prosperity for present and future generations.



PS Eng. Mbugua Champions Strategic Partnerships to Accelerate Road Projects



Principal Secretary, Eng. Joseph Mbugua met with Fujita Corporation team at Works Building to discuss possible strategic areas of collaboration to advance Kenya's seamless connectivity on 4th December, 2025.

Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua, has reaffirmed the Government's commitment to strengthening strategic partnerships that accelerate the delivery of priority national infrastructure projects, underscoring their central role in driving economic growth under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA).

In his remarks during a high-level meeting with a delegation from Fujita Corporation on 4th December, 2025, Eng. Mbugua said the Government remains focused on working closely with reputable international partners to deliver transformative infrastructure that unlocks economic opportunities, improves connectivity, and enhances Kenya's competitiveness as a regional logistics hub.

The delegation from the Japanese construction and engineering firm was led by Mr. Seiji Kimishima, Director and Senior Executive Operating Officer.

Discussions centred on the status and progress of two flagship projects in the Coast region—the Mombasa Southern Bypass and the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Access Road, both of which are critical to easing congestion, improving port access, and catalysing industrial and commercial activity.

Eng. Mbugua noted that the projects align squarely with the BETA Agenda's emphasis on infrastructure-led growth as a foundation for job creation, trade expansion, and inclusive development. He emphasized that timely delivery and sustained collaboration with partners such as Fujita Corporation are essential to translating national plans into tangible benefits for Kenyans.

"We are committed in ensuring that strategic infrastructure projects are delivered efficiently and to the highest standards, through partnerships that bring technical expertise, innovation, and long-term value," Eng. Mbugua said.

The Mombasa Southern Bypass is expected to significantly decongest traffic around Mombasa Island and the Likoni corridor, while the Dongo Kundu SEZ Access Road will enhance connectivity to the Dongo Kundu SEZ, supporting industrial growth, investment, and employment in the Coast region.

Both sides reviewed next steps to fast-track implementation, address emerging project needs, and deepen collaboration in line with Kenya's BETA development priorities.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Mechanical Eng. Richard Thitai and representatives from KeNHA.

Thanksgiving Session Highlights Progress and Momentum in Roads Sector

BY JK OMONDI



Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua leads the State Department for Roads and affiliated agencies during a thanksgiving and prayer session in Nairobi on 19th December 2025.

The State Department for Roads on Friday 19th December, 2025 held a thanksgiving and prayer session in Nairobi led by Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua, bringing together staff and representatives from road sector agencies to reflect on achievements made during the year and renew a shared commitment to unity, hope, and service delivery.

In his remarks during the session, Eng. Mbugua commended officers for their dedication, noting that collective effort has been central to advancing the vision of a Seamless Connected Kenya.

He cited steady progress across the country with the ongoing and newly launched road projects, supported by improved coordination within the implementing agencies in the sector.

The PS highlighted key major milestones achieved over the past year, including the settlement of long-standing pending bills. He credited the support of H.E. President William Ruto leadership to prioritising the payment of contractors, saying the move had restored confidence and momentum in project implementation.

He also lauded the State Department and its agencies for the recent awards in recognition of exemplary public service, describing the accolades as a reflection of teamwork, professionalism, and a shared sense of purpose.

Looking ahead to 2026, Eng. Mbugua urged officers to strengthen collaboration across departments and institutions, emphasizing unity as a driver of better outcomes.

He challenged the team to remain grounded in faith, encouraging them to place their hope in God as they confront emerging challenges and deliver on their mandate. "Everyone matters. When we support our teams, we deliver better and achieve more for the country," he said.

The Principal Secretary wished staff in the roads sub-sector and all Kenyans a Merry Christmas, safe travel during the festive season, and a blessed and prosperous New Year 2026.

The thanksgiving event reaffirmed a collective resolve to enhance connectivity, safety, and service excellence across the roads sector.

Eng. Mbugua Honoured for Outstanding Public Service Leadership

BY ESTHER KARURI



Principal Secretaries recognised for exemplary service delivery in a group photo with the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service, Mr. Felix Koskei, alongside a section Cabinet Secretaries during the 2025 End-of-Year Public Service Reflection Dinner and Agenda-Setting Forum for 2026, held in Kisumu on December 5, 2025.

Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua was recognised for exemplary leadership after delivering an Unmodified Audit Opinion, earning him a distinguished award during the 2025 End of Year Public Service Reflection Dinner and Agenda Setting for 2026 held in Kisumu on Friday, 5th December.

The high-level forum, convened by the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service, Mr. Felix Koskei, brought together senior government officials to review progress made in 2025 and chart the government's strategic priorities for 2026.

During the ceremony, Cabinet Secretaries and Principal Secretaries were celebrated for their exceptional contributions to national development, having ranked among the top public sector leaders driving transformative reforms this year.

The recognition bestowed upon Eng. Mbugua underscores the State Department of Road's strong performance, financial accountability, and commitment to improving infrastructure delivery nationwide.

Leaders present reaffirmed their dedication to a high-performing, efficient, and people-centred public service. The event, themed "A Highly Performing, Efficient, Effective and People-Centric Public Service," convened Cabinet Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, Heads of Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices, Chairpersons and CEOs of State Corporations, Directors-General, and senior leadership across government.

A proud moment for the entire roads sub-sector, and a testament to our PS steadfast leadership and integrity.

State Department for Roads Recognised for Financial Excellence at the 2025 FiRe Awards

BY ESTHER KARURI



Head of Finance, Mr. Wachira, leads officers from the State Department's Finance and Accounts Divisions in receiving the prestigious 2025 Financial Reporting (FiRe) Awards, held at the Safari Park Hotel on December 5, 2025.

The State Department for Roads (SDR) emerged as First Runners-Up (No. 2) under the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) Cash Basis Reporting Category at the prestigious 2025 Financial Reporting (FiRe) Awards held on 5th December, 2025 at the Safari Park, Nairobi.

This recognition underscores SDR's commitment to excellence in financial reporting, while reinforcing public confidence in its transparency, credibility, and accountability in service delivery.

The FiRe Awards promote integrated reporting by enhancing accountability, transparency, and integrity among public and private sector entities. SDR was celebrated under the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) category, reflecting its exemplary compliance with IPSAS standards.

The award reaffirms SDR's dedication to upholding best practices in financial reporting and fostering trust in public sector governance.



Roads Sub Sector Convened Strategic National Values Training to Boost Ethics and Service Excellence



National Cohesion and Values Committee members from the State Department for Roads and its agencies group photo during the National Cohesion and Values Training workshop at Egerton University, Njoro on 10th December, 2025.

In a bid to boost service delivery and public trust, the State Department for Roads and its agencies recently held a National Cohesion and Values Training workshop for its National Values Committee. The session marked a renewed government drive to embed accountability, ethics, and cohesion across the infrastructure sub-sector

The programme held at Egerton University's Njoro Campus brought together committee members responsible for steering the department's compliance with the 2025/26 Performance Contracting (PC) cycle, in which National Values have been elevated as a key cross-cutting indicator.

The initiative aligns with heightened emphasis across government Ministries on mainstreaming patriotism, integrity, and good governance into day-to-day operations.

Speaking during the closing session, Secretary Administration, Mr. Evans Mutari underscored the significance of the training in reinforcing institutional culture with national expectations

"This programme aims to sharpen understanding of the National Values framework, enhance reporting competencies, and ensure each unit plays its part in building an ethical, people-centred public service," she said.

With the new PC cycle requiring measurable progress in fostering national cohesion and responsible leadership, the department's decision to convene a joint, multi-agency training underscores its commitment to embedding values at the core of service delivery.



Secretary Administration, Mr. Evans Mutari, delivers his closing remarks during the National Cohesion and Values Training workshop at Egerton University, Njoro.

The training was facilitated by officers from the Directorate of National Cohesion and Values in the Executive Office of the President Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

Agencies who participated includes the Kenya National Highways Authority (KeNHA), Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA), Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA), and Kenya Roads Board (KRB).

Pictorial



Turkana County: H.E. President William Ruto presides over the launch of the upgrading of Lodwar Town streets to bitumen standards on 6th December 2025.



Nairobi County: Ongoing works at the Ngong Road Flyover Project, with visible progress.



Nairobi County: Mechanical and Transport Directorate (MTD), led by Chief Mechanical Engineer Richard Thitai (centre), hosts a Ugandan delegation from the Ministry of Works and Transport and the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs during a benchmarking visit on best practices in managing plant, equipment, and machinery, December 4, 2025.



Makueni County: Significant progress now evident on the upgrading to bitumen standards and routine maintenance of the 30-kilometre Tawa-Nguluni Road - RWC 658 in Mbooni.



Kiambu County: Steady progress on the reconstruction and expansion of the Rironi-Kamandura Interchange.



Kericho County: The 13 km Kapsuser-Sosiot and Kapsuser-Kipsolu road network, upgraded to bitumen standard, is nearing completion.

Social Media Performance Feedback & Metrics Snapshot



Hon ActuaryvinnyMutai
Transforming the Nation.

Witnessed President William Samoei Ruto's historic launch of the dualling of the Rironi-Nakuru-Mau Summit Road, a truly transformative national venture. This project will open up the western region, end the traffic nightmare that has long burdened motorists, and significantly reduce the number of accidents that have claimed far too many lives.

Once completed, this modern highway will also boost trade between Kenya and her neighbours, strengthening regional integration and economic growth.

A monumental undertaking that marks yet another bold step in building a more connected and prosperous nation. 🇰🇪

State House Kenya

3w Like Reply Hide

2



Sande Odhiambo



Win-win situation for all.

3w Like Reply Hide



Safe Roads Association Kenya - SARAK

Congratulations to State Department for Roads for amazing team coordination & fulfilment of the vision of William Samoei Ruto for a better Kenya for all.

19h Like Reply Hide

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Geff Khisa

Everyone was n is still excited about the launch of that dual, it is still the top most discussed milestone n we will keep clapping for roads department as u really upto the task to ensure that the President keep moving our nation to the next level all the time.

God bless Kenya 🇰🇪

#mbeletuzidi 🙌🙌

We also salute Bwana PS Mchapa Kazi Eng. J M Mbugua for consistently volunteering his rich experience as a civil engineer to our Motherland.

2w Like Reply Hide Edited

1

Elijah Elie

Can only say your leadership and ability Bwana Ps, to constantly push the bar mot the entire department and doesn't go unnoticed. Singapore we are almost.

2d Like Reply Send message Hide



State Department For Roads @Roads_KE · Dec 3



The Ngong-Suswa Road nears completion, set to ease pressure on the busy Mai Mahiu Escarpment Road while providing travellers with a modern, safer, and more efficient corridor via Ngong.

#SeamlessConnectivity | #DeliveringThePromise | ...

175

63

81

Impressions ⓘ

116K

Engagements ⓘ

17,808

Detail expands ⓘ

444



Motorist Association @motoristoffice · Dec 19

We appreciate the many kilometres of roads upgraded across the country, including the impressive Isiolo-Moyale corridor and the ongoing Isiolo-Modogashe-Mandera-Rhamu projects. These demonstrate that Kenya has the technical and institutional capacity to build and upgrade its own public roads without burdening citizens with toll fees under PPP arrangements. Publicly built roads inspire a sense of patriotism and national ownership that foreign-controlled arterial roads simply do not.

A Call for Safety on Our Roads Beyond the Festive Season



As the festive season continues our collective responsibility to safeguard lives on our roads must not fade with the celebrations. While holidays often bring heightened awareness of road safety, the truth is that safe roads are not a seasonal concern, they are a daily necessity.

Every journey, whether for work, school, trade, tour or leisure, carries with it a shared duty among road users. Drivers, pedestrians, cyclists, and public transport operators all play a critical role in creating a culture of safety. Simple but deliberate actions like obeying speed limits, avoiding distracted or impaired driving, using designated crossings, and respecting traffic rules can mean the difference between life and loss.

Beyond individual behaviour, sustained road safety requires a long-term commitment from institutions and stakeholders.

Continued investments in safer road design, proper signage, road markings, lighting, and regular maintenance is essential.

Equally important is consistent enforcement of traffic laws and ongoing public education to reinforce responsible road use throughout the year.

Sustained road safety also depends on long-term investments and oversight. Safer road design, proper signage, markings, lighting, routine maintenance, law enforcement, and continuous public education are essential to keeping our transport networks reliable and secure.

As we move forward beyond the festivities, let us renew our commitment to safety on our roads. Let caution guide our actions, responsibility define our choices, and respect for human life remain at the centre of every journey. Because safety on the road is not just important it is everything!



Merry Christmas

As we celebrate this festive season, the State Department for Roads extends warm Christmas greetings to all Kenyans.

We appreciate every stakeholder, partner, and team member whose dedication has driven the expansion of road connectivity across the country throughout 2025

This Christmas, we honour the spirit of unity and service that drives our work, building safe, reliable, and efficient roads that support Kenya's growth and strengthen communities across the country.

As we look to 2026, we remain committed to delivering transformative infrastructure and enhancing mobility across the Country.

May this season bring you peace, joy, and renewed hope.

Travel safely and ensure every journey ends safely.

Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year 2026!





REPUBLIC OF KENYA

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