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SACCO TIMES

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INSIDE

**SACCOS' Savings Hit
Record High Inspite Of
Economic Meltdown**

**Govt Imposes Heavy
Taxes On SACCOS
To Fund SASRA**

**What To Consider
Before Joining A Savings
Co-operative Society**



PLUS

CEO, Dr. Isaac Omwega

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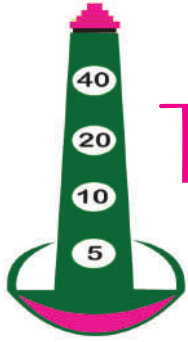
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Co-operative Societies In Coffee Sector Breathe A Sigh Of Relief

It is heartening news that Co-operative societies in the lucrative Coffee Subsector have finally regained their business bearing after years of harrowing experience following a slump in the industry.

A report by Nairobi Coffee Exchange (NCE) to the effect that coffee sold between 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 Financial Years increased, owing to the high production of the commodity is inspiring, and moreover instills confidence in Co-operative societies, and farmers to invest more in the industry.

Co-operative societies and estates combined sold 635,905 (50kg) bags of coffee out of the deliveries of 729,511 through NCE – in point of fact, this is a beacon of hope, that the Coffee Subsector is firmly back in business.

From July to October last year, activities at NCE experienced a slump as farmers in Co-operative societies withheld their produce owing to confusion in implementing reforms in the Coffee Subsector. However, the depressing situation changed after the Government eventually instituted corrective measures in the profit-making industry.

According to NCE report, Co-operative societies in 2023 received more than Shs24.8 billion from the sale of their produce. Business in the Coffee industry has since been picking up, with those opposed to the reform agenda falling by the wayside.

Today, Co-operative societies are firmly back into business after the National Government instituted curative measures to cushion and stabilize the Coffee industry. Unscrupulous coffee buyers who at one point attempted to blackmail cooperators have since been subdued.

Co-operatives were stimulated after New KPCU and Alliance Berries Limited marshalled hundreds of thousands of coffee bags into the market. This, indeed was a shot in the arm for cooperators to go full-throttle into coffee business.

It is worth to note that, coffee production is a significant contributor to the economy of Kenya – the industry is noted for its Co-operative system of production, processing, milling, transporting, marketing and auctioning.

About 70% Kenyan coffee is produced in small farms that control about 75% of the land under production. Coffee accounts for around 20% of Kenya's export revenues – hence, making it the country's third-largest export commodity.

The coffee market in Kenya is projected to generate an additional revenue of US\$54.9 million (over Shs9 billion) in 2024. This market is anticipated to grow at an annual rate of 12.19% according to the Compound Annual Growth Rate. This is the clearest sign that the Coffee Subsector is back on the right trajectory.

Currently, the Coffee industry contributes an average of Shs20 billion to the national economy, and the crop is grown by an estimated 700,000 farmers on commercial scale spread across 31 coffee growing counties, with Co-operative societies playing a key role in planting, maintaining coffee trees, processing the produce, transporting, insurance, marketing and auctioning, including offering farmers education and training.

Coffee Co-operative societies besides marketing coffee produce, represent members in wider discussions, including engaging with Nairobi Coffee Exchange.

The move by the National Government to enlist the support of County governments to boost coffee production through collaboration with Co-operative societies is highly appreciated, and a course worth supporting.

The devolved units should be encouraged to collaborate with Co-operative unions in supporting coffee farming. With coffee reforms in place, there is every reason to make farmers have confidence and trust in marketers, auctioneers and buyers – hence, the reason why County governments should be brought on board.

Editor



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Joan Mutindi

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Reinhard Mosagwe

STAFF WRITERS

Gloria Mwiti,
Lucy Lusimbo,
Gladys Ajiambo,
Enock kipturgut,
Fabian Kamau.

SALES & ADVERTISING

Sarah Kwamboka: 0707116893
Enock Kipturgut 0722699204
Dorcus Koech: 0726512147
Rose Murage: 0701581491

DESIGN AND LAYOUT:

Matthews Memusi

SUBSCRIPTION

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View Park Towers, Utalii Lane
17th Floor, Wing 'A' Suite 402
P.O. Box 41364 - 00100, Nairobi
Cell +254724172670 / 0720380226
Email: satimeseastfrica@gmail.com
Website: www.SACCOTimes.co.ke



Keeping you informed....



1



11

HEALTH INSURANCE COVER As A Cushion5
In Tough Times

WAKENYA PAMOJA SACCO's M-BANKING7
Excites Members

TECHNOLOGIES To Play Crucial In SACCOs'10
Performances

Fearles International.....11

KENYA NATIONAL POLICE DT SACCO Imparts15
Financial Literacy

Visionary Leadership, Resilience Drives **TOWER SACCO**.....19
To Prosperity

NEWFORTIS Stands Out As The Most Resilient,21
Innovative DT SACCO

Why **AFYA SACCO** Is The **SOCIETY** To Join33
In The Year 2024

MENTOR SACCO Posts Significant Growth29
In Deposits And Savings

NDEGE CHAI SACCO Share Capital, Loan Portfolio33
and Assets Growth

PORTS SACCO Defies Odds, Turnover Surges.....36
As Asset Base Increases

HAZINA SACCO Empowers Members Through Sustained....39
Education Programmes



33



1



33



1

HEALTH INSURANCE COVER As A Cushion In Tough Times

Good physical and mental health is essential for people to experience all that life has to offer. It makes it possible to pursue dreams and turn them into reality giving you that sense of accomplishment that everyone seeks for in life. When people are enjoying good health, they become productive members of society, and are able to transform their families and society.

As Kenyans, our nature of helping one another has seen people gather severally to solve a challenge or support a certain cause. It is not uncommon for people to host a Harambee - a timeless Kenyan tradition that sees friends, family and even strangers with goodwill come together to raise funds to cater for a pending surgical procedure, pay for an air ticket, or offset pending medical bills. Periods of illness and unprecedented medical emergencies can strain any individual especially in terms of finances.

The present times have left many with limited options as the current economic situation continues to affect a wide section of the population. Although remedies like exercise and eating a balanced diet have proven to keep sickness at bay, medical insurance bridges the gap when health issues affecting an individual or a family require greater care and attention.

Medical insurance is a safety measure that caters for the whole or part of the individual's medical expenses, by reducing the amount of out-of-pocket healthcare payments that escalate the financial burden to the family. This is conducted by paying a premium fee to the insurance company through the Sacco to secure an insurance package that is renewable annually. Medical insurance brings comfort to an individual if they, or their dependents, fall ill by guaranteeing that medical bills are covered.

First, having medical cover opens more options where one can seek treatment as opposed to relying on one's finances. The options provided by insurance companies include an inpatient cover that caters to expenses upon admission to the hospital and an outpatient cover that caters to medical bills when visiting the doctor. Additional services, dependent on the type of medical cover chosen include

covering ambulance costs, laboratory costs and any other expenses incurred.

Secondly is the peace or comfort that comes with knowing you have a backing in case these costs emerge. A great deal of worry is wiped away when one has a well-planned insurance cover to fall back on and is a source of relief in the face of unforeseen medical crisis.

Thirdly, depending on the type of cover, one gets reimbursement for expenses incurred at a health facility within the insurer's panel of service providers. Further, there are special cases where one might be referred to a medical facility outside the country. A good medical cover will facilitate treatment overseas, making investing in health insurance worthwhile.

Other benefits that come with comprehensive medical insurance cover include ambulance, vaccination, health check-up, coverage of daycare surgeries and more.

To ease challenges on payments for medical services received at a local hospital, health insurance providers have innovated smart access or contactless payment services enabling one to have their bills settled.

It is, however, important to take time and carry out extensive research on the different insurance packages that are offered by various companies to make informed decisions when choosing the insurance policy that is best suited for you and your dependents.

At CIC General Insurance Limited, the insurance packages available include CoopCare Medical Cover and Afya Bora Plan.

The CoopCare Medical Cover

This product is specifically designed for cooperative members and affiliates who have at least 10 principal members. Affordability is at the heart of this policy, which allows cooperative members to enjoy group terms coverage. The policy covers In-patient, Out-patient, Maternity, Dental, Optical, and Last Expense benefits. One can choose to opt for In-patient only or In-patient and Out-patient benefits.

The CoopCare Cover is a plan that

includes a panel of affordable mission hospitals and private hospitals. The plan is available to individuals up to 70 years of age and their families, with a maximum of 6 dependents.

Some of the benefits of having this insurance cover include coverage for maternity and inpatient maternity complications, emergency caesarean procedures, antenatal and postnatal consultations, pre-existing conditions and pre-existing chronic conditions within the set inpatient and outpatient limits, provided that this information is presented at the time of registration. Additionally, this insurance cover can supplement the costs of Intensive Care Unit (ICU) and High Dependency Unit (HDU) treatments.

This insurance cover takes care of outpatient treatments for HIV/AIDS and related conditions, as well as injuries and illnesses caused by terrorism, political war, and violence. It covers individuals who have no affiliation with such events. The cover provides funding for Kenya Expanded Programme on Immunization (KEPI) vaccines for children and infants, and external aids such as corsets, walking frames, wheelchairs, COVID-19 testing and treatment.

The Customer Journey

To enrol for medical insurance cover with CIC Insurance, a customer needs to visit their Sacco Office to obtain a registration form. After filling out the application with all the necessary details and eligibility documents, such as a copy of their National ID, the Sacco will collect and scan all the documents. These documents will then be sent to CIC for processing, and it is important to ensure that the Sacco pin, registration certificate, and registration payment receipt are all attached.

When the documents are received at CIC, they are verified, and a new account is set up. The member's details are confirmed, and medical cards are issued once the Sacco Scheme has been established.

After this, monthly schedules of the members insured are sent to the Sacco. The covered members then undergo scheduled monthly health talks and are expected to submit quarterly scheme performance reports ■



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**WAKENYA PAMOJA
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WAKENYA PAMOJA Sacco's M-BANKING Excites Members

By Ben Orok



Wakenya Pamoja Society Chairman, Mr. Francis Ayieko addressing Delegates during the SDM held at Kisii National Polytechnic in Kisii town.

Wakenya Pamoja Savings and Credit Co-operative Society, a leading agricultural-based Deposit-Taking SACCO in Nyanza region has tapped into Mobile-Banking technology to enhance customer service – the development has exhilarated members (customers), and indeed, it is enticing more people to join the Society. SACCO members have been travelling long distances to transact business with the Society.

Awake to the fast-changing technology in the Banking sector, coupled with unpredictable customer service trends globally, the SACCO has embraced M-Banking technology to enhance and fast-track the Society's customer service delivery.

Addressing members during the SACCO's Special Delegates Meeting (SDM) held on 22nd December, 2023 at Kisii National Polytechnic in Kisii town, the Society's Chairman,

Mr. Francis Ayieko revealed that the financial institution had made significant progress in actualizing the Strategic Plan – moreover, the SACCO had put in place a robust Mobile Banking solution to scale up customer service delivery.

“Based on our Strategic Plan, we are determined to ensure our members access financial services anytime and from anywhere at their convenience without necessarily visiting the banking halls,” stated Ayieko.

Flanked by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Isaac Omwenga, the chairman said the use of technology has greatly improved the SACCO's efficiency in service delivery. Customers can conveniently access services via the Society's USSD code and Wakenya M-Cash App.

“The aim for embracing M-Banking solution was to enhance service delivery to the clientele by offering tailor-made financial service solutions. The Society has taken this initiative because the future of the Banking industry in Kenya is shifting fast to convenient-banking channels,” said Ayieko.

The Chief Executive, Mr. Isack Omwenga disclosed that through M-Banking technology, majority of the SACCO members can conveniently access Front Office Activities (FOSA) services - hence, saving customers time and the cost of travelling to make inquiries, withdrawals or deposits at the FOSA banking halls.

Wakenya Pamoja M-banking offers a digital loan and advances to salaried and tea farmers members without guarantors incase of emergency any time, anywhere.



CEO, Dr. Isaac Omwenga during the SDM.

Turn to Page 8

Wakenya Pamoja's **Mobile Banking**



Wakenya Pamoja Sacco Delegates keenly follow proceedings during the Special Delegates Meeting.

Benefits of M-Banking

Mobile Banking technology has in one way or the other redefined the landscape for SACCOs in the country. This banking solution has not only offered numerous benefits to the SACCOs and the Co-operative movement in general, but has also enhanced the efficiency of the societies, hence contributing to the rapid growth of membership and improved revenue streams for the financial institutions.

M-Banking solution has made its way into the SACCOs' financial services transformation due to the following:

Broader outreach

Mobile Banking solution allows SACCOs to extend their financial and customer services beyond their geographical boundaries, reaching both remote areas and urban members whose busy schedules could have not given them time to physically transact business at the SACCOs' banking halls.

Membership growth

Having made it easy for one to join SACCO through online digital-backed platforms, it is more convenient for a SACCO to attract more members,

hence enhancing membership growth.

Counter competition

With the introduction of Mobile Banking technology, SACCOs can now offer a broader range of customer services, including instant digital loans, giving them a competitive edge over other digital lenders outside of the SACCO framework.

Real-time data Management

There is no doubt that Mobile Banking provides SACCOs with up-to-date information and data management, enhancing informed decision-making on where the SACCO can invest and grow strategically.

Improved financial literacy

Based on the availability of educational resources and budgeting tools, Mobile Banking facilitates members to better understand and manage their finances, making SACCOs more attractive to younger people who most of the time anchor their activities and engagements on digital technologies.

Timely Transactions

Mobile Banking technology, more often than not, strives to empower

members by providing them with direct control over their financial transactions only allowing SACCOs to provide transaction speed that is timely and mostly at par with banks.

Increased deposits

It is important to note that, with incentives such as airtime purchase bonuses, naturally encourage members to make regular deposits to their accounts, increasing and boosting deposits to the SACCOs' accounts.

Automated loan applications

Automated M-Banking solutions offer instant loan approval and disbursement, meaning that members can rely on their SACCOs even in times of emergency, making SACCOs attractive to join and invest in.

Improved revenue

As SACCOs attract more members through M-Banking technology, there is a possibility of increased membership which corresponds with increased transactions, leading to higher revenue for SACCOs which finally translates into improved dividends for members ■

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- Select Lipa na m-pesa paybill option
- Enter business number 115380
- Enter your Wakenya Pamoja Account Number that you want to deposit money to e.g. SA00WP000000000. SA and WP are letters while the others are numbers and must be 15 digits.
- Enter amount you want to deposit.
- Enter your m-pesa pin
- Confirm the transaction and wait for an SMS notification from SAFARICOM and from WPSACCO.

CASH DEPOSIT: USING USSD CODE

Registered Users

- Dial *346#
- Log in with your WPSACCO pin
- on the USSD menu, select the deposit option
- Next, select the Account Number you wish to deposit the money into
- Select the option you want to use to deposit money for example M-pesa
- Enter the amount to deposit and continue
- Confirm the deposit
- Enter your M-pesa pin and confirm
- Wait for an SMS notification
- Money is successfully deposited.

CASH WITHDRAWAL: USING USSD CODE

Registered Users

- Dial *346#
- Log in with your WPSACCO pin
- On the USSD menu, select the WITHDRAWAL option
- Next, select the Account Number you wish to withdraw money to, for example M-pesa
- On the next menu, select the account number
- Enter the amount you want to withdraw and then continue
- Confirm the amount
- Wait for an SMS notification
- Money is successfully withdrawn.

Physical Address: Kahawa House, Opp. Gudka Westend, along the Kisii-Sotik Rd ,Overlooking Daraja Moja.Tel: +254 746 668190, +254 777 668190 | Mobile: +254 207 852506; +254 207 852507
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TECHNOLOGIES To Play Crucial Role In SACCOS' Performances

By Staff Writer

With all initiatives in place by Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies, and the Government support - technologies and digital systems are bound to play a crucial role for enhancement of SACCO operations in Kenya. Sacco Societies Regulatory Authority (SASRA) has now made it mandatory for Deposit Taking SACCOs to embrace Information Technology (IT) systems.

Co-operative societies are now expected to escalate the use of new technologies and digital systems at a faster rate than previously as the financial needs, and other related services continue to grow. The new IT hardware are bound to help SACCOs improve on transparency, accountability, reporting and service delivery in general.

SACCOs in Kenya have always been considered as a mechanism to promote the culture of saving and credit services – the reason why the Government insists on these financial institutions to invest heavily in IT hardware.

SACCO societies have in the recent past contributed immensely towards the socio-economic development of farmers, workers, small and medium enterprises. This was one of the contributing factors that led the Government to fuse the Departments of Co-operatives with the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises into a single formidable ministry – for efficient, harmonized and effective management of the most crucial sector of the economy.

Through adoption of digital systems, and the newly introduced technologies in the Banking sector, SACCOs have managed to restore stability in this category of financial institutions, moreover, the communities they serve.

Apparently, today it is impossible to overlook how workers and business people in micro, small and medium enterprises benefit from the SACCOs existence.

At present, there are over 24,000 SACCOs with over 18 million members



in Kenya. A majority of these SACCO societies have flourished from as low as 15 to more than 900,000 members transacting billions of shillings annually.

Members' deposits in SACCOs have crossed the Shs1 trillion mark for the first time, aptly defying the economic challenges that have seen some savers cash out their money to meet daily needs.

The data supplied by the State Department of Co-operative Development shows savings grew by 15.6% to Shs1.047 trillion in the year 2023 from Shs906 billion, marking a major milestone for Kenya's Co-operative movement.

The State Department of Co-operative Development further states that performance targets have been achieved by Co-operative societies as a result of improved member confidence and access to financial services through adoption of digital channels, and IT hardware in general by SACCOs.

Following adoption of digital systems and enhanced technologies, Co-operative societies managed to post Shs141 billion growth in deposits which helped the SACCOs surpass the Shs950 billion that had been targeted for the year – hence, manifesting the growing stature of SACCOs in the economy as members accumulate savings for a rainy day, and also tap loans for development.

Co-operative societies' invariable growth in 2023 means that financial

institutions were mobilizing an average of Shs11.7 billion in fresh deposits every month despite the prevailing economic meltdown punctuated by elevated prices of goods and services, and increased Government taxation.

Enhanced digital systems and adoption of most modern banking technologies, ensured the pace of growth in deposits mobilization was faster than in the previous years when deposits grew by 7.1% or Shs60 billion.

As observed previously, with all initiatives by SACCOs and governmental support, the new technologies and enhanced digital systems will place SACCOs in a better position to receive financing from banks and other financial institutions.

Implementing digital systems like Credit Association Management System (CAMS) will greatly help SACCOs digitize operations and gain a competitive edge in the future. If actualized as envisaged, and as per specifications, CAMS will increase productivity and operational efficiency through reduced costs, and user satisfaction.

CAMS is an app that SACCOs can use to send and receive money, create accounting reports, and manage their routine tasks.

With increased digitization, Co-operative societies can also enjoy the agility to quickly comply with regulations. That said, digitization will play a significant role in helping SACCOs become more compliant ■



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"Beyond Limits"

By Correspondent

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*Fearless International Founder and CEO,
Mr. Ken Kamau*



*Fearless International CEO, Mr. Ken Kamau,
during the company's Training Session*



*Fearless International Team Building participants led
by CEO, Mr. Ken, Kamau.*

Turn to Page 23



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CONTACTS:

📍 **Thika road, blessed House, opposite Garden City.**

📞 **0722 455 414/ 0729 81 82 03**

✉ **fearlessgroupinternational@gmail.com**
info@fearless-int.co.ke

🌐 **www.fearless-int.co.ke**

Govt Imposes **HEAVY TAXES** On **SACCOs** To Fund **SASRA**

By Staff Reporter



Following low tax collection by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) that has seen ordinary revenue forecast revised down by Shs210 billion in the 2023/2024 Financial Year, the Government starting from January 1st, 2024 has raised taxation on SACCOs to fund SASRA.

In its Medium Term Revenue Strategy (2023), the Government also announced that in the three fiscal years from July 1st, 2024 to June 30th, 2027 it would apply a 5% withholding tax on all farm produce sold through Co-operative societies.

The Government currently facing economic crisis will introduce a withholding tax on agricultural produce which will be a final tax at a rate not more than 5% of the value of the produce delivered to the Co-operatives or other organized groups.

All Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies registered under the SACCO Societies (Non-deposit Taking Business) Regulation of 2020 will be required to pay a modified annual levy until December 31st, 2027.

The National Treasury projects poor revenue performance in the 2023/2024 Financial Year, thus the basis on which to tax heavily SACCOs and farm produce sold through Co-operative Societies to make up the shortfall in the Government's annual budget so as to fund State projects, programmes and other related activities.

As a matter of fact, the Government has raised its borrowing target for the current Financial Year by Shs168 billion on projection of lower tax collection that has seen ordinary revenue forecast revised down by Shs210 billion.

The National Treasury has projected poor revenue collection during the current fiscal year following a weaker start during the first five months of the 2023/2024 Financial Year when KRA collected a meagre 34.6% of its 2023/2024 revenue target.

Figuratively, this was down from a 40% collection rate during a similar period in the 2022/2023. The National Treasury, it is understood plans to borrow Shs886.6 billion in the 2023/2024 Financial Year, up from the target of borrowing of Shs718.9 billion as presented in the original budget on June 15th, 2023.

The National Government is already in the process of raiding Kenyans' savings in an unprecedented push to fund its programmes, projects and related State activities, including SASRA. President William Ruto's administration plans to raid taxpayers for the additional Shs361.80 billion to fund his second full-year budget, which is set to cross the Shs4 trillion mark for the first time.

The draft Budget Policy Statement for the year starting July 2024 seen by SACCO Times reveals that the National Treasury intends to increase the budget to nearly Shs4.2 trillion

from the Shs3.9 trillion revised estimates for the current fiscal year.

Sacco Societies Regulatory Authority now targets non-withdrawable deposits which typically require an account holder to leave the funds untouched for a specified period.

The Annual SACCO Societies Levy will be paid at 0.1% of the non-withdrawable deposits between January 1st, and December 31st, 2024. It will then be increased gradually to 0.13% in 2025; 0.14 in 2026 and 0.15% in 2027.

According to SASRA chairman, Mr. Jack Ranguma, the levy paid under sub-paragraph (1) of SASRA Act shall be based on the total non-withdrawable deposits held by the SACCO society as indicated by the audited financial statements of the SACCO society for the immediately preceding Financial Year. The levy, however shall not exceed Shs6 million.

The value of savings in SACCOs crossed the Shs1 trillion mark in 2023 for the first time. This came about despite economic challenges that led some savers to withdraw funds for daily needs.

The Ministry of Co-operatives, Micro and Small Enterprises Development states that the performance of SACCO societies has improved in the recent past as a result of improved member confidence and access to financial services through adoption of digital channels by SACCOs.

The National Treasury notes that the Government experienced revenue shortfalls during the first five months of the 2023/2024 Financial Year – but the Co-operative sector surmounted economic challenges to meet the demands and aspirations of the members, and contributed enormously to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ■

KENYA NATIONAL POLICE DT SACCO

Dignified With Financial Reporting Award

By Dan Ocharo



National Chairman, Mr. David Mategwa together with SACCO staff pose for a photo displaying the 2023 FiRe Award Trophy.



A display of the 2023 FiRe Award Trophy.

Kenya National Police DT SACCO has kept a clean streak of outstanding performances, bagging the most coveted awards in the SACCO sector.

The SACCO was dignified on December 8th, 2023 with the prestigious Financial Reporting (FiRe) Award which is the most coveted financial reporting award in the East African Region.

For last 22 years, FiRe Award Management Committee has recognized and awarded the best financial reporting entities in the East African Region. Kenya National Police DT SACCO is one of the Societies that have joined top ranks to win the Award following exceptional performance in financial reporting.

Principally, the Award is aimed at promoting integrated financial reporting through enhanced accountability, transparency and integrity in compliance with appropriate financial reporting framework and other disclosures on governance, social and environmental reporting by private, public and other entities domiciled in the East African Region.

The theme of the 2023 edition of FiRe Award Ceremony which was held at Safari Park Hotel – Nairobi



National Treasurer Mr. Amos Tingos and GM Operations and Strategy Mr. Simon Tanui receive the FiRe Award Trophy during the awarding ceremony at Safari Park Hotel.

was: Utilizing Technology and Innovation to Enhance Transparency of Sustainability, Governance and Financial Information.

The theme evidently resonated with the crucial role that technology and digital systems play in ensuring transparency of non-financial information disclosure which give a good view of organizational performance and its relevance in decision-making.

Disclosure of non-financial information plays a critical role in business sustainability – indeed, this

is the area that Kenya National Police DT SACCO has excelled, and today is a role-model to many Co-operative societies in the East African Region.

As a matter of fact, the disclosure of non-financial information is essential for building trust amongst the public by effectively responding to their expectations and needs, and for communicating with the clientele, including investors and other collaborators which contributes to effective and prompt decision-making.

Turn to Page 15

KENYA NATIONAL POLICE DT SACCO

Imparts Financial Literacy

The Kenya National Police DT SACCO has held its Annual Delegates Congress focusing on SACCO philosophy and financial education training.

The training held in three cohorts, sought to empower delegates in making strategic decisions that impact the financial health of the organization, resource allocation, risk management and enhanced communication.

Held in Mombasa, the delegates training sessions were graced by Kenya National Police DT SACCO National Chairman Mr. David Mategwa who hosted a number of Chief Guests for the different cohorts who included Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Cooperatives Simon Chelugui, Principal Secretary for Cooperatives Patrick Kilemi, ACDF Board chairperson Lois Kitsch, ACCOSCA CEO George Ombado, Nairobi County Director for Co-operatives, Dolphine Aremo and Vincent Marangu Director Cooperatives Banking at Cooperative bank of Kenya.



Chief guest CS for Co-operatives and MSMEs Development Hon. Simon Chelugui addressing delegates during the training.

Over 70 cooperators from the Kenya National Police DT SACCO received the world-class training on inculcating the Cooperative Principles and Philosophy with the onset of the SACCO Philosophy and Financial Education Training.

The training encompassed an engaging yet intensive course on Co-operative Philosophy which aims to improve the quality of SACCO Leadership and Management decisions and inculcate a unique set of skills and knowledge in participants



National Chairman, Mr. David Mategwa gives his remarks during the training held in Mombasa.



Principal Secretary State Department for Co-operatives Mr. Patrick Kilemi.



CS for Co-operatives and MSMEs Development Hon. Simon Chelugui, National Chairman, Mr. David Mategwa, National Treasurer Amos Tingos, Hon. Sec Mr. Jeremiah K.L. Korooi, alongside directors Andrew Koech, Joakims Awuondo, Benjamin Talam, Jamleck Gichobi, Eric Tumwet and Elizabeth Nyagah, Starehe Sub-County Cooperative officer Rosaline Mwithiga and CEO Mr. Solomon Angutsa, pose for a photo during the training session.

The Kenya National Police DT SACCO Board of Directors, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Mr. Solomon Angutsa, GM Operations and Strategy Mr. Simon Tanui, GM Finance and Banking Mr. Moses Manyuanda as well as GM ICT and Business Innovations Mr. Tony Mutero also graced the training.

to make informed and effective financial decisions.

Addressing delegates, Cabinet Secretary Hon. Simon Chelugui congratulated the board of management for a job well done. He added that the Kenya National Police DT SACCO is ranked number

one in the country in terms of management and number three nationally when it comes to asset base, and he challenged the SACCO to stay on top by avoiding complacency. He added that this is the year to push the cooperative movement to a higher level for economic gain and development.

Addressing the delegates, Kenya National Police DT SACCO Chairman Mr. David Mategwa noted that this year's training themed 'promoting communication for effective leadership' is timely in concerted efforts to boost financial inclusion through SACCOs.

The chairman said that the SACCO plans to come out strongly to push the SACCO philosophy through financial education training, and furthering the financial inclusion agenda where no one will be left behind.

Continued on Page 16

KENYA NATIONAL POLICE DT SACCO On Upward Trajectory



A delegate receives a certificate from CS. Hon. Simon Chelugui and National Chairman after successful training held in Mombasa.



Nairobi County Director of Co-operatives Ms. Dolphine Aremo.

Backed by the African Confederation Of Cooperative Savings and Credit Associations (ACCOSCA), the trainings are one of the main tenets geared towards accelerating ACCOSCA's mission of promoting financial inclusion in Africa, in its relentless quest to provide cooperators in Africa with the

relevant financial acumen aimed at empowering members' economic standing through financial literacy.

George Ombado, CEO ACCOSCA who spoke at the cohort 3 training session congratulated the January 2024 Cohort of the SACCO Philosophy and Financial Education Training. He added that the graduating cohort under the Kenya National Police DT SACCO is now set to enhance financial well-being at the household level guided by the Cooperative Business Model.

Kenya National Police DT SACCO started with a membership of 690 and has since grown to over 72,000 members. The Kenya National Police DT SACCO's mission is to provide competitive financial solutions to its members through effective mobilization and management of resources and a vision to empower members for quality life ■



Mr. George Ombado, CEO ACCOSCA addressing Cohort 3 delegates during the training.



National Vice Chairman, Mr. David Kangogo.



Kenya National Police DT SACCO CEO, Mr. Solomon Angutsa.



Kenya National Police DT SACCO delegates keenly following proceedings during the SACCO's training in Mombasa.



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- Emergency (12 Months)
- Muslim (48 Months)
- Muslim emergency (12 Months)
- Wezesha/Biashara loan
- Bima loan (NEW)

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- Holiday Account
- Business Account
- Fixed Deposit Account
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...Empowering members for quality life

Why **CHILDREN** Should Develop The Culture Of Saving In **SACCOs**

By Ben Orok

There are various life skills parents attempt to inculcate in their children while they are still young – one of such life skills is teaching them how to prudently manage their finances.

It is advisable for parents to be the role models of their children in matters pertaining to financial management through creation of good savings habits which will pay dividends for the rest of their lives. Parents, at all times should dialogue with their children on matters of prudent financial management – this should be done with the view of instilling financial discipline in the youngsters.

Parents need to teach their children that it takes time, efforts and patience to earn money, hence need for prudent spending and saving.

The more open and engaging parents are with their children about life realities in managing money, the better they will be able to prepare themselves psychologically for a financially secure future.

Many financial experts and scholars argue that, lessons of money management are best learned when one is young, the reason why parents should seize the opportunity to teach their children about money, how best to use it and the value for saving money. This vital money-lesson will definitely carry them through their lives.

Teaching children about the importance of money and how to handle it is one of the critical life skill lessons children can learn from their parents, since money management begins with the basics – it is often grandparents and parents who initiate and ensure such crucial process succeeds.

Some parents, first introduce their children and grandchildren to the idea of saving with the age-old piggy



bank. This is where the youngsters are taught to save with a goal, perhaps for a toy that they want to buy.

Parents encourage children to keep safely money they are given in the form of gifts by relatives, friends and from other sources – children are impressed upon by parents to save the seemingly insignificant coins, with the advice that these coins will get them buying that cherished toy they want.

The culture of teaching children to satisfy themselves first before they pay anyone else is a financial management value, and indeed a key to their future.

Parents encourage children to set aside a specific sum of gift-money at the beginning of every month as part of developing the culture of saving.

Hence, every time your child gets money, to talk to him/her about the importance of saving part of it, and if they have a plan to buy a toy, facilitate them to purchase the item through saving part of their income.

It would be ideal for parents to guide their children to begin with planning how to buy small and less-expensive items, instead of engaging in stretched savings that could to destroying the anticipated saving culture.

This is one of the strategies for teaching children to understand the value of hard work and saving. Parents could also talk to their children on how best to prioritize the use of their savings.

Having children set their goals and how best to develop the saving culture, it is crucial that the youngsters should also be introduced to the most prudent way of spending the money while upholding good moral values. They should seriously consider when, where and how to spend their money.

One important aspect of getting children appreciate the value of money is to get them to struggle and earn money themselves – here, they will always understand the challenges associated with financial management.

Children who have learned the basic disciplines involved in money management are more likely to understand money, manage it efficiently and handle it effectively to achieve their ultimate goals.

Teaching children when they are young about money matters, is therefore one of the important legacies any parent can bequeath to their children. ■

VISIONARY LEADERSHIP, Resilience Drives TOWER SACCO To Prosperity

By Staff Reporter

Amid economic shocks and uncertainties, Tower Savings and Credit Co-operative Society has remained resolute in pursuing its mission and vision of mobilizing and offering diversified sustainable financial products and services to members.

The commitment to uplifting the socio-economic status of members within Kenya and beyond remained unwavering throughout the year under review, hence reinforcing the SACCO's core role of promoting financial inclusion, saving culture and generally economic empowerment.

The SACCO's remarkable achievements is a clear testimony that the financial institution is on the right trajectory, especially in membership growth.

The membership surged by an impressive 21%, reaching 225,933 at the end of the year under review. The spectacular growth is a testament to the loyalty and confidence people have in the management of Tower Sacco.

Additionally, the share capital and member deposits exhibited robust growth, reaching Kshs. 18,832,447,166 by December 31st, 2023 representing 18% increase.

"We attribute the SACCO's phenomenal growth to the support derived from members, sound policies, innovations, enhanced products and service delivery, including excellent corporate governance." Said Mr. Peter Mainah Ngugi, Chairman of Board of directors – Tower Sacco.

Tower Sacco witnessed significant growth in loans disbursement, totaling Kshs. 12,506,021,844 – a remarkable 28% increase from the previous year. The total gross outstanding loans also experienced a surge, reaching



Chief guest His Excellency Dr. Moses Kiarie Badilisha, the Governor of Nyandarua County during 2024 AGM.



CEO Mr. Patrick Njenga, giving his speech during 2024 AGM.

Kshs. 18,084,401,929, reflecting a substantial growth of 19%. The Society's total assets grew by 19%, reaching Kshs. 23,229,096,796 in 2023, underscoring the SACCO's steady progress and financial stability.

"Let us continue patronizing the various tailor-made credit facilities in our SACCO. The Society endeavours to offer affordable credit to the members," the chairman said.



Tower Sacco National chairman, Mr. Peter Mainah Ngugi addressing members during 2024 AGM.

The SACCO's overall performance showcased an impressive total revenue of Kshs. 3,492,220,324, translating to a commendable 22% growth from the previous year.

In appreciation of the Society's stellar performance, the Board of directors recommended dividend on share capital at 20% and rebates on non-withdrawable deposits at 13%, exemplifying the SACCO's commitment to rewarding members for their valuable contributions.

The chief guest, the Governor of Nyandarua County, Dr Moses Kiarie Badilisha said the success story of Tower Sacco is an enabler and a boost to the County government's efforts to revive the Co-operative sector.

"The impressive performance of the SACCO encourages our people to develop the culture of saving for wealth creation", said His Excellency Dr. Kiarie.

The Governor expressed enthusiasm in Tower Sacco's success story – recognizing the financial institution

Turn to Page 20

TOWER SACCO Sets The Trend Nationally

as a vital catalyst in reviving the lucrative Co-operative sector and fostering a culture of savings and wealth creation within the society.

The SACCO's Maralal branch was acknowledged as one of the most outstanding branches in the country after performing exceptionally in service delivery and successfully steering the outreach programmes.

The completion of the state-of-the-art building in November 2023, and its subsequent inauguration on January 20th, 2024, signified the SACCO's commitment to expansion and creation of more operational space



Tower Sacco Board of Directors and the CEO presents a gift to His Excellency Dr. Moses Kiarie Badilisha, the Governor of Nyandarua County.

Acknowledging the importance of health, Tower Sacco has forged partnership with AAR Insurance to offer health insurance cover for their members. The Tower CAARE

The theme served as a guiding principle as it underscored the SACCO's commitment to positively influence members' lives through various avenues such as education, home ownership, healthcare, agriculture, business growth, construction, and acquisition of movable assets and machinery.

The Strategic Plan for 2021-2030 outlines an ambitious goal to grow the SACCO's asset base to Kshs.

80 billion by 2030, relying on teamwork, prudent corporate governance, and member support.

"Tower Sacco is a brand in the national space," His Excellency Dr. Kiarie observed. He emphasized the significant impact of the Co-operatives on both local and national scene – he highlighted the crucial role played by Co-operatives in the county, directly employing over 20,000 people and indirectly supporting hundreds of thousands of people.

Tower Sacco has hyped Corporate Social Responsibility by giving back to the society. The SACCO sponsors bright but needy students, engages in environmental conservation through tree-planting programmes and exemplifies the Sacco's dedication to making a positive difference in the society.

Tower Sacco reflects a financial institution that has demonstrated resilience, growth, and commitment to holistic development, as evidenced by robust performance indicators.

The SACCO is committed to a comprehensive approach to members' well-being, and an ambitious strategic plan aimed at fostering substantial asset base ■



Tower Sacco members follow proceedings during 2024 AGM.

for efficient and effective service delivery and enhanced working environment.

To embrace the digital age, Tower Sacco has invested in robust ICT systems, including Sacco Agency, Visa ATM Cards, Mobile banking and Online internet banking.

Health Cover is designed to provide accessible and affordable healthcare services to SACCO members.

The theme of this year's Annual Conference was: "Impacting lives through offering diversified and affordable credit facilities for enhanced growth."



SACCOs' SAVINGS

Hit Record High In-spite of Economic Meltdown

Saving in the Non-Withdrawable Deposit Taking hit Shs97.86 billion from Shs90.64 billion, surpassing the target of Shs91 billion.

By Staff Reporter

The Co-operative movement in Kenya is such a lucrative sector, and in point of fact a successful story, and a key component in shaping the national economy.

The Co-operatives play a crucial role in the country's economic landscape – hence, fostering financial inclusion, and empowering communities, including the marginalized groups.

With a demonstrated track record of providing accessible financial services, Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies, for instance, have become essential instruments in driving economic growth, especially among the underserved and marginalized Kenyans.

To demonstrate that Co-operative societies' trajectory is on the right path, member deposits for the first time in history surpassed the Shs1 trillion mark in 2023.

The financial institutions posted the historic performance, defying the economic meltdown that has forced some savers to cash-out their deposits to address daily requirements and other emergencies.

The State Department for Co-operative Development has since revealed that savings in SACCOs increased by a whopping 15.6% to Shs1.047 trillion by June 30th, 2023 from Shs906 billion – this was the turning point for Kenya's Co-operative sector.

The milestone was achieved largely through concerted efforts by the stakeholders in the Co-operative movement who contributed towards the impressive results. Besides, member-confidence and access to

enhanced financial services through adoption of technologies and digital systems contributed the huge achievement.

According to the State Department of Co-operative Development, the unprecedented Shs141 billion growth in deposits helped SACCOs to surpass the Shs950 billion that had been set as the target for the year 2023. Indeed, this was a clear manifestation that the sector was steadily growing in stature, and contributes exceedingly to the national economy.

The trajectory that the Co-operative societies has taken in terms of financial growth, indicates that SACCOs were mobilizing an average of Shs11.75 billion in fresh deposits monthly in spite of the current economic doldrums punctuated by the ever-rising prices of goods, services and the increased taxation by the Government.

The pace at which the deposit mobilization grew was indeed faster than in the past years when such deposits grew by 7.1% or Shs60 billion. Precisely, the growth in deposit reinforces the need for Deposit Guarantee Fund (DGF) to cushion the savers from losses on their deposits and savings in event that a Co-operative society crumbles.

The SACCO Societies Act (2008) provides for a Deposit Insurance Fund for Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies, but for unexplained reason(s) the scheme has yet to be established.

Section 55 of the SACCO Societies Act sets out the premise for the establishment of DGF to solely safeguard members' deposits of up to

Shs100,000, not inclusive of shares in event a Co-operative society goes under due to liquidity challenges, poor governance or other unforeseen circumstances.

Savings in Deposit Taking SACCOs grew from Shs474.25 billion to Shs522.59 billion as at June 30th, 2023, hence being above the Shs490 billion that had been targeted for the year 2023.

Saving in the Non-Withdrawable Deposit Taking hit Shs97.86 billion from Shs90.64 billion, surpassing the target of Shs91 billion. According to Sacco Societies Regulatory Authority (SASRA), the target was surpassed largely due to improved member-confidence, branch expansions and networking, adoption of digital systems, and alternative service delivery, including embracing new technologies.

Thus, this means that other Co-operative societies apart from Deposit Taking and Non-Withdrawable Deposit Taking one that operate under the auspices of SASRA as at June 30th, 2023 had Shs341.11 billion representing a growth of 25%.

As a matter of fact, the growth in SACCOs' deposits can rightly be attributed to the higher returns when compared to traditional banks.

SASRA's annual report further indicates that by December 31st, 2023, SACCO accounts with more than Shs1 million grew at 29.6% – arguably the fastest pace in five years, from about 71,000 to 92,000 being more than double the 39,000 that were holding such amount five years ago ■

NEWFORTIS Stands Out As The Most Resilient, Innovative DT SACCO

Newfortis' share capital rose from Ksh 145,446,320 in 2022 to Ksh 157,183,874 in 2023.

By Staff Writer



Chief Guest, H.E Hon Mutahi Kahiga, EGH, Governor of Nyeri County, graced the AGM.

In the dynamic landscape of financial institutions, Newfortis Sacco stands out as a shining example of resilience, innovation, and commitment to service delivery to members.

The milestones the SACCO has posted in the last 48 years was highlighted during the Annual General Meeting on January 13th, 2024 – the SACCO posted the most remarkable achievements in 2023. It should also be considered that the Society has had unwavering dedication to service delivery to members.

The financial report presented during the AGM reflects the robust growth of Newfortis Sacco in the face of economic challenges. From a membership of 19,729 in 2022, the SACCO witnessed an impressive increase to 20,356 in 2023, demonstrating the trust and confidence members placed in the institution's management.

The financial strength of any Co-operative institution is often measured by its deposit base. Newfortis exhibited robust financial health with non-withdrawable deposits surging from Ksh 6,300,187,874 in 2022 to an impressive Ksh 7,047,682,769 in 2023.



Newfortis Sacco Chairman Mr. John Githinji addressing delegates during Annual General Meeting.



Newfortis Sacco Chief Executive Officer Mr. John M. Mathinji

The SACCO's outstanding loans experienced substantial growth, escalating from Ksh 6,920,922,481 in 2022 to Ksh 7,679,149,706 in 2023. The surge in loan disbursements highlights the Co-operative society's proactive approach in meeting the financial needs of members, and more importantly, contributing to the socio-economic growth of the country.

The increase in share capital is a testament to the confidence members have in the Co-operative society's vision and mission. Newfortis' share

capital rose from Ksh 145,446,320 in 2022 to Ksh 157,183,874 in 2023. This growth not only strengthens the SACCO's capital base, but also positions it favourably for future expansion that benefit members and the country in general.

The financial rewards reaped by members, in the form of dividends and interests, experienced noteworthy growth. From Ksh 795,019,345 in 2022, the SACCO distributed an increased sum of Ksh 901,917,037 in 2023. This translates to 13% interest on non-withdrawable deposits and 14% on share capital. The upward trajectory in financial returns demonstrates the SACCO's commitment to delivering value to members – hence, aligning with its objective of fostering economic well-being within its community.

“These statistics are a clear indication of the confidence and trust members have in the SACCO, currently with an asset base of over Shs11 billion. The Co-operative society has impacted the members economically – it has improved their living standards.” Mr. John Githinji, Chairman of NewFortis Sacco said.

The accomplishment is a clear testament to the SACCO's commitment to providing competitive, quality, and affordable products and services tailored to meet the diverse needs of its esteemed members.

Chief Guest, H.E Hon Mutahi Kahiga, EGH, Governor of Nyeri County graced the AGM – he offered words of encouragement and praise for the SACCO's remarkable achievements.

“This is an impressive performance that can only be achieved under visionary leadership. I applaud the Board of directors and Supervisory committee for the good leadership and for building great value and class,” he remarked.

Turn to Page 24

NEWFORTIS Records Spectacular Returns



Newfortis Sacco Board of Directors during the 48th Annual General Meeting at PCEA Nyamachaki grounds.



Newfortis Sacco member giving his remarks during the meeting

The SACCO's strategic achievements underscores its commitment to expansion, modernization, and community engagement. The establishment of five branches, the acquisition of marketing vehicles, installation of a lift at the headquarters, and the active participation in the Central ASK Agricultural Show are clear indicators of the Society's forward-thinking approach. Winning multiple awards at the Agricultural Show is not only a source of pride for the Co-operative society, but also a testament to its excellent performances in the Co-operative movement and Non-Agro based financial industry services.

The renovation and modernization of the Nyeri branch and headquarters reflects Newfortis Sacco's

commitment to creating a conducive and modern environment for both members and staff. Moreover, the assistance provided to members in acquiring land at Mweiga Phase 2 exemplifies the SACCO's dedication to supporting its members in achieving their financial and personal goals.

The chairman's emphasis on good governance as the pillar for growth and development is noteworthy. The SACCO's commitment to building the capacity of members, the Board, and staff has resulted in the successful

adaptation of new technologies and improved customer relations.

The prudent use of members' funds has built a foundation of trust, attracting members from various sectors of the economy. The SACCO's governance model exemplifies transparency, accountability, and responsible financial management.

to providing efficient and modern financial services to members.

Governor Kahiga reaffirmed the government's commitment to support Co-operatives, and to provide them with an enabling environment to operate as autonomous and independent institutions. He emphasized the collaborative efforts between the government and the

Co-operative sector, underscoring the importance of these institutions in driving economic development and self-sufficiency.

The chairman highlighted the importance of social media platforms in disseminating information and creating awareness among members. The cautionary note regarding the responsible use of

these platforms reflects Newfortis Sacco's commitment to maintaining a positive and informative online presence.

Newfortis Sacco's outstanding performance, growth, and strategic initiatives position it as a beacon of success in the Co-operative movement. The SACCO's commitment to innovation, good governance, and social responsibility ensures that it remains a trusted partner in the financial journey of its members ■



A section of Newfortis Sacco members following proceedings during the Annual General Meeting.

Newfortis Sacco's three-year strategic plan, guided by corporate governance, membership growth, enhanced service delivery, and technological innovation, demonstrates a commitment to continuous improvement. The focus on a succession plan ensures stability, growth, and development of the SACCO in the years to come.

Emphasis on leveraging high technological innovations, including the use of Digi loans and Verve cards, showcases the Society's dedication

What to Consider Before Joining A SAVINGS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY

By Ben Orok

When it comes to saving, few financial institutions offer the kind of benefits that Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies extend.

SACCOs earn members money in two different ways – members earn interest on their deposits and dividends on their shares, the reason why Societies have become popular vehicles for financial inclusion as compared to commercial banks and other micro-finance institutions.

It is important to understand that, when you acquire shares in a SACCO, you automatically become a shareholder. Moving forward, SACCOs invest the shareholders' money, and divide returns among members depending on the number of shares they own. The returns, which are in the form of cash are described as dividends.

SACCOs pay dividends regularly at different intervals – the intervals range from monthly to annually. Consequently, shareholders hold Annual General Meetings to decide the dividend and interest rate to offer during a particular Financial Year.

Based on the business season, dividends can sometimes be higher or lower than the promised rates depending on how SACCO's investments perform during that particular Financial Year.

Having scanned the above aspects, it is therefore critical for those wishing to join SACCOs to know where to invest their resources.

First-and-foremost, prospective SACCO members should be awake to the reality that the thirst for securing



their future through investments can lead them to be victims of financial fraudsters.

It is against this background that financial experts caution members of the public wishing to join SACCOs to be selective for the interest of their long-term and short-term economic gains.

Investment considerations and decision-making have to be taken seriously before trusting a SACCO with your hard-earned money. It is crucial to have these aspects at the back of your mind if you want to join a Society to grow your savings.

Besides, majority of prospective SACCO members base investment decisions on Societies that pay dividends handsomely not knowing that investing in such financial institutions should not only be pegged

on dividend payouts, but there are also other underlying factors that should be put into consideration like security, reliability and promptness.

In a nutshell, before you join a SACCO, one requires not to prioritize dividend payments – instead, you should make critical considerations like joining a Society that would address comprehensively your financial needs and other objectives.

» Regulation

One should only decide to join a Sacco that is regulated and licensed by the Sacco Societies Regulatory Authority (SASRA). This is the only government body mandated by law to license and regulate SACCOs in the country.

Turn to Page 25

What PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS Should Look For In A SACCO

Members of the public must be made aware that joining a licensed SACCO assures them of safety of their investments in a particular SACCO, hence minimizing chances of losing their savings in case their SACCOs by bad luck collapse.

The benefit of joining a regulated SACCO to some extent helps members seek legal redress in case of losses, since regulated SACCOs have taken insurance cover against members' investments.

» Dividend Payments

One of the key benefits one gets as a SACCO member is dividend payments. This comes in form of dividends for the share capital and rebates for members' deposits.

Dividends are calculated in form of one's savings and come as a percentage. On average, most SACCOs in the country pay at a rate of 10%. This can sometimes go lower or higher depending on the SACCO's financial performance in a particular Financial Year.

The analysis is done based on the past performance as this is the only way that can give the true picture of the SACCO's dividend payout trend, since a SACCO that pays a higher dividend helps to boost your income.

» Location

It is evident that most SACCOs have a specific geographic location or catchment area in which they operate. When considering joining a Society, for purposes of convenience and accessibility, you need to pick on the one operating in your area. Why? This makes it easier for you to access products and services.

Saccos also tend to offer products and services that are customized to their location. As an example, a SACCO operating in a tea farming zone will have products that best suit tea farmers. Hence, a SACCO in your location will have higher chances of offering products that suits you.

» Leadership

Leadership defines the top management that is in charge of running the SACCO and this includes positions such as Board members, and the Chief Executive Officer.

From the corporate governance aspect, a good SACCO has leaders with good reputations, high academic qualifications, and great work experience. These are crucial attributes for SACCO leaders to ensure that the Society runs successfully and meets members' expectations.

» Membership

It is true that SACCOs are normally founded by members with the same interest and objectives.

In this case, you should consider joining a SACCO that has members with the same interest as yourself. That is to say, if you are a business person, the best route is to join business-oriented Societies.

» Products and Services

The most important reason for one joining a SACCO is to benefit from the products and services it offers – these include savings and credit products.

One must ensure they join a Society that suits their needs. This is achieved through getting the right products and services.

» Technology

With the fast-changing business landscape, technology has become a critical factor facilitating access to financial services and has made it convenient and affordable to access these not only across the country, but also across the world.

However, in this digital age, a good SACCO should give you various technological platforms to access its services. This helps you to minimize the time and cost of visiting physical branches.

Some of the technological solutions that SACCOs offer include Mobile banking (USSD or the App), Internet banking, and ATM cards. Minus these channels, one will be exposed to inconveniences and challenges of accessing SACCO products and services efficiently.

» Access to Loans

One of the core functions of SACCOs is to give loans and credit to members. This makes it a critical element among the factors to consider before joining a Society. It is important that, you join a SACCO that offers loans in time, affordable, and adequate repayment duration.

The amount of loan you can access from a SACCO is normally determined by your savings. That is to say, the loan is calculated as a multiplier of the savings and mostly, this ranges from a multiplier of 3 to 5, meaning that if your savings amounts to Shs1,000 you access loans up to Shs3,000.

Consequently, the loan interest rate should also be affordable and on a reducing balance basis to help in reducing the costs of borrowing.

» Savings Contributions

Normally, the SACCO model mobilizes members to make a regular contribution of savings. And in most cases, some SACCOs have set limits that one should meet regularly through setting of minimum monthly contributions.

Hence, you should consider joining a SACCO that meets your contribution ability. The SACCO should also offer services such as check-offs if you are salaried to make it easier when contributing.

» Ease of Exit

When you aspire to join a SACCO, it is advisable that you always consider the factor of how you will exit the Society. In this aspect, the exit process should also be as seamless as the joining process.

Why **AFYA SACCO** Is The **SOCIETY** To Join In The Year 2024



Afya SACCO Chairperson Ms. Beatrice Mogire.



*Afya SACCO CEO,
CPA Peter Gisemba.*

Kenyans, especially the working-class, farmers, youths and women's groups, and business people in Micro-Small and Medium Enterprises have excellent opportunity to benefit from simple loan terms and conditions offered by Afya Savings and Credit Co-operative Society.

Compared to traditional banks and other financial institutions, Afya Sacco offers superior interest rates to members who seek loans in spite of elevated inflation, and subdued economic activities which have made it hard for Kenyans to make ends meet.

As a matter of fact, the Co-operative society has proved more popular among financial institutions in Kenyans.

Feasibly, one of the most significant benefits of joining Afya Sacco is access to affordable credit – the Society provides members loan facilities at competitive interest rates, extremely lower than those offered by commercial banks and other saving societies.

Enhancement Of Economic And Financial Growth

Afya Savings and Credit Co-operative Society has enhanced the economic and financial growth of members through loans that are affordable – members are provided with better services; the SACCO inculcates into members the saving discipline; members are assured of huge returns on investments, and moreover, cheap interest rates on loans. The Society inspires a saving culture, and ensures limited liability.

Governance And SACCO Leadership

Afya Sacco has developed panoramic policy document which has steered the Society to achieve admirable goals – the policy document is providing guidelines that are enhancing visionary leadership. The upgraded governance practices are protecting the interests of members and other stakeholders.

The policy has birthed visionary and holistic leadership which have enabled the SACCO to formulate detailed codes of best practice which addresses the Society's specific circumstances

and situations. The guidelines have perfected the evaluation of practices and procedures in the Society.

The strategic governance and leadership policy which is acceptable to the entire Afya Sacco membership has facilitated Board of directors and the management team to pursue objectives that are in the interest of the Co-operative Society and the members.

The Society and the membership in general have gained immensely from the visionary leadership of the Board and the management team – today, the financial institution can effectively monitor the performance of its products and new innovations, and the services offered.

Moreover, the SACCO can efficiently and productively use the available resources, technologies, data/information, digital systems and reinvigorated manpower to the benefit of members. Efficiency, accountability and transparency in the Society have gone a notch higher.

Turn to Page 27

AFYA SACCO - The SOCIETY Of Choice



Cabinet Secretary for Cooperatives and MSMEs Development Hon. Simon Chelugui, Chairperson Ms. Beatrice Mogire during the launch of Afya Sacco Strategic Plan 2023-2027 during the past ADC at Bomas of Kenya.

Sound policies have guided the Society to deliver services to members and other stakeholders, including assisting the financial institution to implement the Strategic Plan.

Innovation And Information Technology

Afya Co-operative Society has embraced in totality innovation and Information Technology which has led to efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery and strategic planning.

Innovative technologies have streamlined internal processes, reduced operational costs, and improved the overall efficiency in the operations of the society, besides maximizing on time in service delivery.

Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) is facilitating Afya Sacco to address effectually the varied needs of members by strengthening the SACCO's internal control systems which are then backed by effective communication mechanisms.

Afya Sacco has successfully carried out financial innovations such as mortgages, Automated Teller Machines, new saving accounts, reduction in interest rates, payment of utility bills, Credit Management System among others.

The Society is utilizing ICT to attract new members and grow the uptake of SACCO products and services.

The SACCO has won accolades and attracted more members to grow its asset base, savings, loan portfolio, increased deposits and enhanced dividends. The uptake of SACCO products and services have equally increased which is plus to the Board, the management team, staff and members.

Education And Training

Continuous education and training have enabled Afya Sacco to effectively serve members across the board; conduct business enterprises; and implement investment plans and programmes.

The SACCO regularly offers education and training to Board of directors, the management team, staff and ordinary members as this is the only viable means to build capacity needed to steer the Society to greater heights.

In actual fact, education and training has served as an empowering tool to build the capacity of Afya Sacco to reach desired targets, including better provision of services to satisfy members.

Thus, the provision of education and training has improved the performance of Afya Sacco Society's operations and service delivery. The SACCO through education and training programme has managed to provide financial knowledge to members. More so, members have been provided with the necessary skills to make informed financial decisions; to conduct business enterprises and to implement investment plans and programmes/projects.

Education and training have enabled SACCO members elect quality leaders who serve on the various committees and bodies. Leaders acquire skills, knowledge and understanding to enable them make informed decisions beneficial to the interests of the Co-operative and members in general.

Corporate Social Responsibility

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a business model by which Afya Co-operative Society plans to make concerted efforts to operate in ways that enhance rather than degrade the society and the environment. CSR will immensely help Afya Sacco to improve various aspects of the society as well as promote a positive brand image of the financial institution. Afya Sacco will use CSR to market its products, services and innovations – hence attracting new members ■



Afya SACCO Chairperson Ms. Beatrice Mogire, taking members through a session during members' education and training programme.

OUR PRODUCTS

1

LOAN PRODUCTS

- ✓ Emergency Loan
- ✓ Capital Loan
- ✓ Afya Super Loan
- ✓ Afya Mwaliko Loan
- ✓ Afya Kubamba Loan
- ✓ Shariah Compliant Loan
- ✓ Afya Personal Loan
- ✓ Afya Senior Citizen Loan

2

SENIOR & RETIREES - FOSA

Afya Sacco members retirees can now comfortably enjoy the services of the SACCO through our FOSA.

3

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS:

1. Group Savings Account:
2. Personal Savings Account
3. Amsha Savings Account
4. Ukulima/Biashara
5. Shariah Compliant account
6. School Fees/Education Account



Capital Loan



Emergency Loan



Personal Loan



AFYA FOSA
SERVICES



AFYA SAVINGS
ACCOUNTS



P.O. Box 11607 - 00400, Nairobi - Afya Centre
Tel: 2223970 /61 | Email: info@afyasacco.com
Website: www.afyasacco.com

MENTOR SACCO Posts Significant Growth In Deposits And Savings

By Fabian Kamau



MENTOR SACCO Chairman Mr. Anthony Kamau, addressing members during 47th AGM 2024



Chief Executive Officer, Joyce Ndegwa addressing members during 47th AGM 2024

Mentor Savings and Credit Co-operative Society posted an increase in total revenue from Shs1,541,231,998 in 2022 to Shs1,828,188,032 in 2023 – the SACCO made Shs1,183,852,437 pay-out to members which translated to an increment of Shs167,975,879 or 16.5%.

The Chairman of Mentor Sacco, Mr. Anthony Kamau disclosed that in the year under review (2023), total assets increased by Shs1,705,933,390 or 14% to Shs13,472,751,386 from Shs11,766,817,996.

Kamau said earnings from assets increased by Shs1,582,498,760 or

from Shs739,534,288 in 2022 to Shs868,219,994 in 2023.

While presenting the annual report, the chairman advised members to regularize their membership in line with the SACCO's rules and regulations. "Those who have not attained the minimum share-capital of Shs30,000 are encouraged to do so, in order to benefit from their savings," said Mr. Kamau.

The chairman disclosed that, the total members' deposits increased by Shs1,293,070,125 or 14.5% from Shs8,908,466,620 in 2022 to Shs10,201,536,745 in 2023.

"The increase in deposits was realized through contributions by members in schemes such as ordinary deposits, Fosa deposits and Mazao deposits," he said.

Members were informed of the SACCO's core capital growing by Shs254,559,891 or 15.1% compared to Shs207,775,552 in 2022, and the institutional capital by Shs125,874,185 or 13.1% compared to Shs113,696,488 in 2022.

The foregoing demonstrates that the SACCO was able to sufficiently make retention from the surpluses for purposes of building the capital base.

In terms of liquidity, Shs2,477,080,224 or 18.4% of total assets was held in cash-equivalents, far above the Deposit Taking SACCOs average of 9.41%. Members were informed that cash and cash equivalents increased by Shs443,525,158 from Shs2,033,555,086 in 2022.

Liquid assets ratio increased from 131% in 2022 to 145% in 2023 against the prescribed minimum of 15%.

"The analysis shows that the SACCO held more members' deposits in cash



MENTOR SACCO Board of directors pose for a photo during the 47th AGM, 2024.

At the well-attended 47th Annual General Meeting held at Mumbi Grounds in Mura'nga County, the Co-operative Society approved dividend payment on non-withdrawable deposits at the rate of 12.4% and dividends on share-capital at the rate of 15%.

15.06% from Shs10,505,827,000 in 2022 to Shs12,088,325,760 in 2023.

"This is a laudable increase as the future of our Society depends on a solid asset base, and asset earning potential," Kamau said, adding that the share capital increased by 17.4%

Turn to Page 30

MENTOR SACCO Records Huge Growth



MENTOR SACCO members follow proceedings during at the 47th Annual General Meeting 2024.

and cash-equivalents as at December 31st, 2023, than in a similar period in 2022,” Kamau said.

The chairman observed that there was a decline in loan-uptake, and called on members to market Mentor Sacco products and services in work places, in the various business enterprises, as well as in youth and women groups.

The total loan book as at December 31st, 2023 was Shs9,858,945,126 up from Shs8,683,011,938 in 2022.

During the year under review, loans and advances worth Shs8,147,835,057 were granted, compared to Shs7,481,182,838 the previous year. In the same period, the loan book grew by Shs1,038,577,169 or 12% compared to Shs1,174,469,195 or 16% in 2022.

The members were informed that due to the SACCO's financial stability and aggressive marketing, 7,313 new members were recruited in 2023, representing an increase of 22.8%.

The SACCO introduced a voluntary saving scheme dubbed The Golden Account which serves as a Pension Scheme designed to provide financial stability when a member is not actively earning.

Contributions to the account can be through Check-off system, Standing orders, Mobile banking, direct cash

“

2024-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN

MENTOR SACCO aims at fortifying:

- Financial stability
- Foster community progress and
- Increase membership to over 80,000.

”

deposits or bank transfers. The funds earn interest which is ploughed back and the member is guaranteed of their money upon celebrating the 60th birthday.

During the 2023 National and County Ushirika Day celebrations, Mentor Sacco was honoured for its exceptional performances in various categories such as Best SACCO in Risk Management, Best Improved SACCO, Best Managed SACCO and the SACCO that posted highest returns to members.

In the 2024 - 2028 Strategic Plan, Mentor Sacco aims at fortifying financial stability, foster community progress and increase membership to over 80,000. The Society intends to enhance efficiency in service delivery by adopting a digital banking system.

The SACCO aims at investing more in appropriate ICT cyber-security infrastructure, ensuring 80% of products and services are accessed online/mobile.

Moreover, the Mentor Sacco aims at growing revenue from Shs1.8 billion to Shs3 billion, the loan portfolio from Shs9.8 billion to Shs14 billion, members deposits from Shs10.2 billion to Shs16.4 billion, share capital from Shs868.2 million to Shs1.5 billion and enhance the Society's risk management to 100%.

According to the chairman of supervisory Committee, Mr. Peter Njenga, the Portfolio at Risk is currently at 4.16% as opposed to the 2022 figure of 3.77%. The Co-operative society is now rated the best SACCO in risk management.

The chairman observed that the Society has established Mobile banking, Agency banking, Members portal, a website and new software. This is to mitigate geographical challenges for members outside the region and make them access the SACCO's services easily.

The Chief Executive Officer, Joyce Ndegwa called on members to seek for loans, and use the funds prudently. “Kindly continue patronizing the products and services of the SACCO because what you deposit is what is shared among ourselves to maintain the Society's growth,” she said ■

RIGID LENDING TERMS By Banks Drive Borrowers To Marauding SHYLOCKS

By Ben Orok



It is evident in the minds of majority of Kenyans that stringent lending terms set by commercial banks and other financial institutions could be the reason for the increased number of borrowers, especially women patronizing high interest loans offered by loan sharks, commonly known as shylocks.

Further, It is within the public domain that the number of people aspiring to seek loans from sharks in the coming days is likely to increase, and it is conceivable that borrowers would pay exceedingly high interest rates that are way above the prevailing market rates.

Repayment of loans, whose interest rates can be as high as 20% and above, continue posing serious challenges to borrowers across the board, though it is women who are hit hard.

In a nutshell, high interest rates charged by loan sharks, have continued disempowering women borrowers and entrepreneurs

economically, hence shattering their families and life careers.

Not once or twice in their lifetime, majority of victims of loan sharks have confessed that, the loans are affecting them due to high interest rates, and also psychologically.

When people need money urgently, they may find themselves considering the option of borrowing from shylocks and loan sharks as a quick fix solution to address their immediate financial obligations.

Loan sharks may appear amiable, benevolent and approachable just to entice you, but engaging them could easily turn out to be a risky business – it can leave you vulnerable to intimidation and in a state of desperation when it comes to repaying the loans.

Women who constitute almost half of the Kenyan population, have for decades been the engine driving economic development in their families, communities and the

country at large, yet their access to credit has remained a monumental challenge.

This scenario is to a larger extent attributed to commercial banks' strict lending terms which demand that women must have collateral which is normally pegged on a registered land title deed for them to qualify for loans.

The problem has been aggravated by archaic cultures, patriarchal beliefs and practices which deny women the right to own property and control land registered under family names.

Naturally, women from such conservative societies get alienated from accessing loans from commercial banks whose requirement of collateral is normally based on land title deeds registered in the name of the loan applicant.

Under such circumstances, many women fall victim to unlicensed money lenders, particularly women whose businesses are thriving in the face of stringent lending policies set by commercial banks and other financial institutions.

The situation is so worrying that, majority of unsuspecting women, especially those from the countryside have fallen prey to shylocks for quick credits whose interest rates are prohibitive since the amorphous entities are not legally regulated by the Government.

This impediment scares women from seeking financial support from legally regulated financial

Turn to Page 32

LOAN SHARKS Drive Borrowers To PERPETUAL POVERTY

institutions, forcing them to seek refuge in shylocks for unsecured credits at punitive interest rates, making repayment difficult for the borrowers, prompting the same outlets to auction the borrowers' property to recover their loans.

Random surveys across the country reveal a shocking trend of how shylocks crumble women's enterprises after they (shylocks) auction borrowers' hard-earned property on account of failure to repay loans promptly.

It is regrettable that loans from such credit schemes have subjected unsuspecting women to a vicious cycle of poverty – in some cases rendering them homeless after shylocks sale their properties to recover the loans.

It is advisable for women to embrace alternative financial sourcing solutions, like joining Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies popularly known as SACCOs.

Deposit Taking SACCOs have embraced the concept of Table Banking which assists borrowers to grow their enterprises at a slow but relatively conducive pace. SACCOs caution prospective borrowers against engaging shylocks who could easily collapse their investments on the basis of failure to repay the loans promptly.

SACCOs have increasingly become popular, acting as vehicles for financial inclusion and wealth creation through the promotion of a savings culture among members.

Savings and Credit Co-operative Societies are member-owned financial institutions that more often than not provide affordable credit facilities on friendly terms, and encourage members to embrace the savings culture.



On matters of investments and wealth creation, SACCOs are the best vessels for accessing credit for investments and creation of wealth. SACCOs have affordable credit facilities, flexible lending terms and personalized approach to lending.

SACCOs offer affordable credit facilities to members. The interest rates charged on SACCO loans are generally lower than those of commercial banks or loan sharks, hence members can borrow larger amounts of money from SACCOs than they could from other lenders, thus making SACCOs a better option to go for investment loans.

Besides, members using their savings as collateral to secure loans from SACCOs, it is equally important to note that, Savings societies offer members opportunity to invest their savings in various investment vehicles, such as fixed deposits and treasury bills which contribute immensely to the country's economy.

This arrangement is beneficial to members who do not have other collateral to offer. To a larger extent, SACCOs are more willing to lend members who have a lower credit score compared to commercial banks and other lenders.

Members who save regularly with a SACCO are more likely to be approved for loans when they need them, as SACCOs prioritize lending to their members based on their saving culture.

SACCOs have increasingly become appealing to a wide section of the society – they offer longer repayment periods for their loans than traditional banks. Saving societies give members more time to repay their loans under flexible terms. Through this arrangement, SACCOs offer a variety of loan products, including emergency loans, school fees loans, business loans and many more ■

NDEGE CHAI SACCO Share Capital, Loan Portfolio and Assets Growth



Mr. Daniel Sang Ndege Chai Sacco Chairman delivering his speech during the 46th ADM, 2024.

Established and registered in 1978 and licensed in 2011 as a Deposit Taking (DT) Cooperative Society, Ndege Chai Sacco has over the years thrived on its core values of integrity and honesty, creativity and innovation, excellence and quality; topping up with its member centric value that has seen the Sacco focus on member needs and better service delivery. The Sacco's mission is to efficiently mobilize resources for sustainable provision of affordable products and services to its members with a vision to transform for prosperity.

2023 Performance

Ndege Chai Sacco has recorded an impressive growth in its 2023 performance. The Sacco's total membership increased from 66,495 in the year 2022 to 70,249 as at 31.12.2023 which represents a 6% rise. This rise, according to the Sacco Chairman was occasioned by diversification.

'Apart from tea, we now serve dairy, avocado and pyrethrum among other value chains. We are also keen on business people as part of our microfinance portfolio. We will strive to continue with our diversification strategy in order to manage our

concentration risk,' noted Ndege Chai Sacco Chairman Daniel Sang in his report at the 46th annual delegates meeting held on February 4th 2024.

He noted that in the year under review, world major economies faced significant inflation and increased interest rates putting pressure on the Kenyan currency which has continued to decrease in value.

'The exchange rate of the Kenyan shilling to the dollar may soon cross the Ksh 170 mark further increasing prices of many commodities in Kenya since we are in a net importing country. In addition, fuel prices remain erratic and government borrowing is expected to remain high even as levies and taxes introduced by government eat into members' incomes,' said the Sacco Chairman.

Despite challenges in the economic front as well as legislation that impacted on the Sacco members as well as the Sacco, Ndege Chai Sacco Share Capital rose by 14% from Ksh261,066,083 at the close of the year 2022 to Ksh298,049,908 as at 31st December 2023. Member deposits increased from Ksh2.965 billion as at 31st December 2022 to Ksh3.370 billion as at 31st December 2023 representing a 13.6% increase.

Ndege Chai's total loan portfolio increased by 14% from Ksh3.143 billion as at the end of 2022 to Ksh3,582 billion as at 31st December 2023. The Sacco's total assets also grew by 14% to Ksh4.862 billion as at 31st December 2023.

'We are approaching the Ksh5 billion mark in Sacco assets and are on course with the targets we set in our strategic plan which my board reviewed at the end of last year and set higher and more challenging targets. We also managed to keep most of the expenses below budget despite the difficult operating climate and thus post improved surplus for the benefit of our members,' explained Mr. Sang.



CEO Mr. Gilbert Bett giving his remarks during the 46th ADM, 2024.

Achievements

In the year under review, Ndege Chai Sacco excelled and was recognized during the national Ushirika day celebrations as well as the Champions of Governance (COG) Awards. At the National Ushirika Awards, Ndege Chai Sacco emerged position 2 as the most improved DT Sacco (Agricultural based Sacco). At the same time, the Sacco was named second best managed DT Sacco (Agricultural based) and position 3 for most efficient DT Sacco (Agricultural based).

At the County level, the Kericho County Awards Committee named Ndege Chai Sacco best in education services, the most efficient Sacco, best in gender balance in the board, and top in the most innovative social impact award. The Sacco was ranked position 2 in highest income growth, highest growth in deposits investment assets and highest in member deposits. Ndege Chai was also ranked position 3 best capitalized and 3rd in growth in loan book.

The Champions of Governance Awards also named Ndege Chai Sacco as 1st runner up in the Cooperative sector Award.

Turn to Page 34

NDEGE CHAI SACCO Posts Tremendous Growth

In his report, the Chairman indicated that the Sacco continues to run the secondary school scholarship program for the best two boys and the best two girls from among the membership and as per the laid down policy. Ashley Chebet who scored 408 marks in the 2023 KCPE, Antonia Chepkemoi who scored 406, Caleb Cheruiyot who scored 409 and

Otieno Arnold Philip who scored 404, according to the Chairman's report received scholarship into high school.

'Join me in congratulating the beneficiaries. I implore them to maintain the good performance into high school and to be good ambassadors of Ndege Chai Sacco,' said Chairman Sang.

Dues to members

With such excellence in the year under review, the Board of Directors recommended a payment of rebates on deposits to members at the rate of 10.50% and a dividend of Ksh.20.00 per share of KSh.100. In the year 2022, members had received rebates on deposits at 10% and dividends of Ksh.15 per share of Ksh. 100 marking a significant growth in the members due for 2023.



Awards presented to Ndege Chai Sacco during the 2023 Ushirika Day.

SACCO PERFORMANCE





NDEGE CHAI

SAVINGS AND CREDIT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



Savings Accounts:

Junior Account, Akiba Kuu, Group Account, Fixed Deposit, Joint account



Web Portal:

A members' web portal is incorporated in our website (www.ndegechaisacco.co.ke) where members can view their statements online. The feedback mechanisms allow members to engage with the Sacco online.



M-Ndege service is convenient
Cost effective • Easy • User-friendly
Secure • Efficient • Real-time.



1.

DEVELOPMENT LOAN

Purchase of land, develop the farm and improve on your life status



2.

EMERGENCY LOAN

for school fees, medical and any unforeseen financial needs.



3.

ADDITIONAL LOAN

for topping-up of your development needs.



4.

MAZIWA LOAN

We offer this loan for individual farmers to invest in high breed dairy cows/goats for better productivity.

For Online Salary Advance, Balance Inquiry & Transfer from Bank to Mpesa

- Balance inquiry for specific accounts
- Transfer money from various FOSA accounts to Mpesa
- Deposit money to shares/deposits & FOSA accounts
- Pay & borrow loans & check limits of your loans
- Change your M-Ndege Service PIN
- Make utility payments (DSTV, Kenya Power, Airtime)
- Allows several transactions within same session

Ndege Chai Building
Opposite Hass Petrol Station
Next to Parkmart Supermarket, Kericho.

052-2030121
052-2030592
020-8031759

info@ndegechaisacco.com
 www.ndegechaisacco.co.ke

Prospering Together Since 1978

PORTS DT SACCO Defies Odds, Turnover Surges As Asset Base Increases

By Gloria Mwiti



Ports Savings and Credit Co-operative Society has demonstrated noteworthy achievements, with a total turnover surging from Ksh1.05 billion in 2022 to an impressive Ksh1.20 billion in 2023, marking a substantial 14% increase.

This significant milestone was reported during the SACCO's 58th Annual Delegates Meeting held on 26th January 2024 in Mombasa.

The event witnessed the presence of notable figures, including Ms. Kibibi Abdalla, the CEC Blue Economy, Cooperatives, Agriculture, and Livestock in Mombasa County; Mr. Nelson Nyoro, the County Director for Cooperatives; Mr. Eric Nyutu, the Senior Regional Manager of KUSCO; Ports Sacco CEO, Mr. Dedan Ondieki; Board of directors, and delegates.

"I congratulate Ports Sacco for your exemplary performance in 2023," Madam Kibibi Abdalla commended the Society for their achievements.

Moreover, the SACCO's Fosa operations recorded a remarkable 24% growth, while Bosa operations doubled with a significant 17.5% surge from the previous year. Dividends on members' shares were proposed at Ksh.90,804,973, equivalent to 20% of the total members' share capital.

Interest on members' deposits for 2023 increased to Ksh558,441,204,



The chairman, Mr Alfred Konde making his remarks during 58th ADM 2024.

a 12.5% rise from the previous year, signaling financial prosperity. The Board recommended a payout, subject to members' approval, and encouraged members to reinvest interest on deposits for sustained growth.

Ports Sacco's loan portfolio witnessed robust growth, reaching 21.5% from Ksh4,934,455,952 in 2022 to Ksh. 5,996,939,583 in 2023. Despite economic challenges, the total asset base expanded to Ksh9,170,693,621, a 12.6% increase from the previous year. The provision for loan loss reduced, demonstrating effective debt management strategies.

In year under review, there was a noteworthy growth in membership to reach an impressive total of 10,583 active members – marking an exceptional rise of 17%. The Board highlighted the essential role played by both members and delegates for recruitment, encouraging them to adopt resolutions aimed at achieving new targets for recruiting additional members.

Transformative Corporate Social Responsibility

Ports Sacco's commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility is evident through various initiatives. The SACCO readily sponsors students in schools and colleges; makes financial and material donations to institutions such as Little Sisters of the Poor and Mombasa Remand Prison.

The Society engages in activities such as Ndagauka Nami Athletics Camp and Imarika Foundation. The Board has since expressed the intention to register a foundation to fund-raise for the needy cases in the society.

Digital Transformation

Additionally, Ports Sacco made significant progress in 2023 by fully embracing digital transformation. The Society implemented advanced technologies such as cloud computing, data analytics, and artificial intelligence significantly improving operational efficiency.

Turn to Page 37

PORTS DT SACCO'S Resilient Growth In All Areas

PORTS SACCO'S loan portfolio witnessed robust growth, reaching 21.5% from **Ksh4,934,455,952** in 2022 to **Ksh. 5,996,939,583** in 2023.



Ports Sacco CEO, Mr. Ondieki addressing delegates during the 58th ADM 2024.

The Society's commitment to member convenience was reflected through their adoption of various digital services like Mobile Banking, WhatsApp and an interactive website

Strategic Plan

Looking ahead to 2024, Ports Sacco's strategic roadmap includes biometric access control, a state-of-the-art call center, Artificial Intelligence

integration for member interactions, and a transition to a paperless operational environment.

The Strategic Plan for 2024-2028 is expected to steer Ports Sacco to greater heights. Despite some challenges in 2023, the Board and the management team are addressing the shortcomings to ensure successful implementation of the plan. The Sacco successfully rebranded in May 2023, increasing visibility both locally and internationally, and opened a branch in Nairobi City.

To encourage teamwork among members, the Board urged delegates to set member-recruitment targets – delegates were reminded of their critical role in governance and the importance of applying skills acquired in training for SACCO's benefit.

"We should focus on putting members first, enhancing operational efficiency, and pursuing strategic growth as fundamental elements for future success," Mr. Alfred Konde the chairman of the Board stressed.



Delegates clapping in response to speech delivered during 58th ADM 2024 in Mombasa.



UPLIFTING PEOPLE

Why Join Ports Sacco

- ⌘ We walk the journey with our members to uplift them and inspire journeys of prosperity.
- ⌘ Quick loan processing and flexible repayment period.
- ⌘ Good Returns.
- ⌘ Our products serve specific needs of our members
- ⌘ We are very caring and accessible.
- ⌘ No loan processing fees or any other hidden charges.
- ⌘ Salary Processing, Rent Collection Account, School Fees Collection Account

Membership is open to:

- ⌘ Kenya Ports Authority (KPA),
- ⌘ Salaried individuals from other organizations and institutions,
- ⌘ Investment / women / youth groups (Chamas), Corporates,
- ⌘ Retirees / Pensioners,
- ⌘ Business people engaged in Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs),
- ⌘ Any other person with a reliable source of income, and
- ⌘ Kenyans in the diaspora.

FOSA-Savings Products

Get handsome returns by patronizing any of our savings products and realize your dreams.



Children's Savings Account



Holiday Savings Account



Biashara Savings Account



Group Savings Account

M-PORT Services

Simply Dial
***882#**
or
***645#**

Access financing or transact anytime, anywhere

download the M-Port Cash app/Ports Sacco app from playstore or apple store.

Our Loan Products



Head Office, Mombasa
Ports Sacco Plaza
Mwakilingo Road, off Moi Avenue

Nairobi
KPA-ICD, ICD Road
off Mombasa Road

Kisumu
Swan Center, Ground Floor
Oginga Odinga Street

Voi
Potters House Cmplx
Ground Floor

+254 011 173 000

info@ports sacco.co.ke
 www.ports sacco.co.ke

**WE ARE OPEN TO
THE PUBLIC**

HAZINA SACCO Empowers Members Through Sustained Education Programmes

By Gladys Ajiambo



Chief Guest, Nairobi County Director of Co-operatives Dolphine Aremo addressing members during the event.

Hazina Savings and Credit Co-operative Society is committed to promoting Member Education with a view to inculcating financial discipline and the saving culture in SACCO members.

The Member Education Programme is aimed at educating and publicizing information on the various products, packages and services offered by the Co-operative society. Hence, training and mentoring members on financial literacy and the general operation of the Society is paramount at Hazina Sacco.

The Chairman of Hazina Sacco, Mr. Evans Kibagendi has successfully anchored the Member-Education programme – he contends that Education Day is a strategic event in the calendar of the Society as it serves as a vital platform for fostering a deeper connection between the SACCO and its over 28,000 members spread across the country.

During Education Day in Nairobi, the chairman emphasized the significance of the event stating: “The purpose of this day is to bring together members so that we share experiences on the performance of the SACCO and also get opinions on how the SACCO is viewed by members and the general public.” This sentiment underlined the collaborative spirit that Hazina Sacco promotes, ensuring that members’ voices are accommodated in shaping the SACCO’s trajectory.



Hazina DT Sacco members follow proceedings during education day.



Hazina DT Sacco National Chairman Evans M. Kibagendi, addressing members.



Hazina DT Sacco CEO Dickson Okungu addressing members during Education Day.

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Dickson Okungu said the Society had initiated tangible actions aimed at strengthening the bond within the Co-operative society. “We are educating and sharing information with members so that we get to understand each other, and how best we can maintain the bond for the betterment and advancement of the SACCO,” Okungu said.

The Member-Education programme has covered all branches since the

initiative was launched in August 2023.

The Chief Executive highlighted the achievements of the SACCO in key areas such as member-recruitment, product-awareness, enhanced service delivery, and updates in ICT programmes. “We are also sensitizing members on the latest technologies and digital systems in the Banking sector,” he said.

The Director for Cooperatives – Nairobi County, Ms. Dolphine Aremo commended Hazina’s commitment to corporate governance. “I encourage the SACCO to nurture corporate governance, so as to build members’ confidence,” she said.

Arema who was the chief guest emphasized the need for continuous Member Education and Training programme which should also cover Board of directors, emphasizing that responsibilities start at the grassroots level.

The chief guest lauded Hazina for its visionary leadership, and operational efficiency, citing a lack of disputes and a smooth loan approval process. “Hazina is one of the professionally-managed Co-operative societies in the country,” Arema said.

Hazina Sacco Member-Education Day reflected the Society’s sense of commitment to professionalism, inclusivity, transparency, and empowerment ■

Turn to Page 40

HAZINA SACCO Hypes Transformative Corporate Social Responsibility



Chief guest Mr. Kariuki Mwangi, Ndeiya Sub-County Director from the Ministry of Education, graced the event.

In spite of fiscal disruptions occasioned by inflations and the aftermath of unpredictable weather owing to climate change, Hazina Savings and Credit Co-operative Society has invested immensely in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to benefit the communities in which it operates.

Hazina Sacco has ploughed huge finances in CSR programmes to contribute to the well-being of the society through environmental, educational and social measures.

The Society has embraced the corporate culture where it contributes exceedingly to the well-being of the society. The SACCO has since demonstrated commitment to promotion of CSR by partnering with Tutu Primary School in Ndeiya, Kiambu County. The SACCO has invested Shs500,000 in the construction of the state-of-the-art washrooms.

Aware of the challenges facing many schools in rural areas, Hazina Sacco took the initiative to set up the facility at Tutu Primary School. The construction of the ultra-modern washrooms is not only a testament to the SACCO's commitment to education, but also a step towards creating hygiene in the society.

During the launch of the washrooms, the SACCO also organized a tree-planting exercise in the school and the neighbourhood. The gesture demonstrated the SACCO's commitment to environmental conservation. The tree-planting initiative is part of CSR exercise.



A section of Hazina Sacco Board of directors led by National Chairman Evans M. Kibagendi, pose for a photo with Tutu Primary School teachers and pupils during CSR activities.

“Most schools in rural areas face myriad challenges, thus the Society has decided to support where possible. We thank Tutu Primary School, the Head teacher, parents and the local community for allowing us to demonstrate our philanthropy,” the chairman of Hazina Sacco stated.

Besides, the construction of the washrooms, the SACCO donated educational materials to pupils. The Chairman, Mr. Kibagendi said

the SACCO regularly supports CSR initiatives through funding various projects and programmes in at least three counties.

The Chief Guest, Mr. Kariuki Mwangi, Ndeiya Sub County Director of Education commended Hazina Sacco for choosing Tutu Primary School for their CSR project. He acknowledged the impact the washrooms would have on the school ■



The newly launched washroom facility donated by Hazina Sacco.



Hazina Sacco Chairman Mr. Evans M. Kibagendi alongside Tutu Primary School teachers, during tree planting exercise at Ndeiya - Kiambu County.

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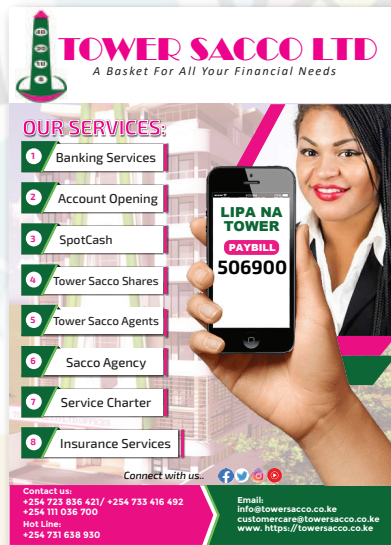
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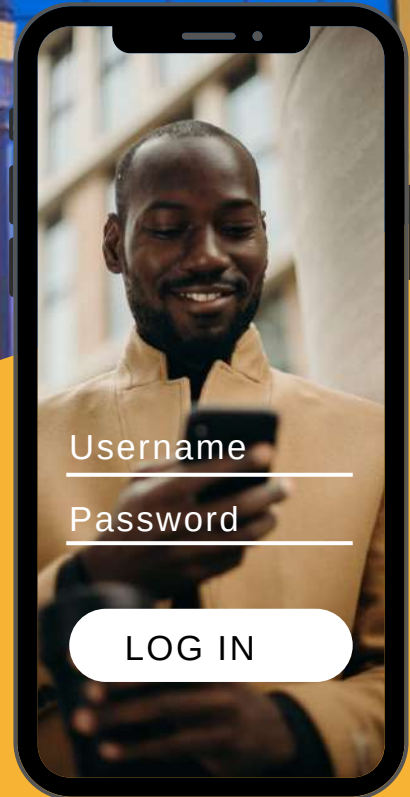
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