



RONGO MUNICIPAL BOARD

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REPORT ON CITIZEN FORA EVENT HELD ON HELD 10/07/2025 AT RONGO MUNICIPAL GROUNDS – FY 2024/2025

DATE: 10/07/2024

TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

VENUE: RONGO MUNICIPAL GROUNDS

PREPARED BY:

DAVID ORE

RONGO MUNICIPAL MANAGER

10TH July, 2024

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

The citizen fora event of Rongo Municipality was convened at Rongo Modern Market to provide a platform for traders, residents, municipal officials, and other stakeholders to discuss market infrastructure, environmental cleanliness, public health, and structured engagement mechanisms. The forum emphasized **inclusive participation, responsiveness, and transparency** in municipal planning and operations.

Traders raised concerns regarding the need for additional **modern stalls to protect goods from rain**, better drainage, and organized trading spaces. Participants reviewed ongoing projects, discussed public health measures, and contributed ideas for sustainable market management.

1.2 Constitutional and Legal Framework

The Event was conducted in accordance with:

- **Constitution of Kenya (2010):** guaranteeing citizen participation in governance.
- **Urban Areas and Cities Act (2011):** mandating community engagement in planning and service delivery.
- **County Governments Act (2012):** ensuring transparency, accountability, and citizen-inclusive decision-making.

These frameworks support **active participation of traders, residents, and other stakeholders** in shaping municipal priorities.

1.3 Purpose of the Event

The Citizen fora Event aimed to:

1. Review the condition of Rongo Modern Market.
2. Address trader concerns regarding space and protection against adverse weather.
3. Discuss market cleanliness, drainage, and organized trading environments.
4. Promote gender-inclusive participation.

1.4 Preliminaries and Meeting Called to Order

The Municipal Manager, David Ore, called the forum to order at **10:00 AM**, welcoming participants and emphasizing the importance of **citizen input in municipal planning and development projects**.



Photo 1: Mr. David Ore "Your participation ensures that the needs of traders and the broader community guide our planning and development efforts," he stated.

1.5 Attendance

The Event was attended by:

- **Municipal Leadership:** Municipal Manager, Chairperson of the Municipal Board, Heads of Finance, Planning, Works, Environment, Transport, and Market Management Departments.
- **Market Traders:** Stall owners and representatives from all sections of Rongo modern Market.
- **Civil Society Organizations (CSOs):** Local NGOs and community advocacy groups.
- **Youth and Women Groups:** Representing gender-inclusive engagement.
- **Residents and Community Members:** Participating actively in deliberations.

Attendance reflected **broad stakeholder representation**, ensuring comprehensive discussions.

2. AGENDA ITEMS AND DELIBERATIONS

2.1 Review of Rongo Modern Market Condition

The forum began with a review of the **current market infrastructure**. Municipal officers presented an overview of the market's condition, highlighting challenges such as overcrowding, inadequate stall structures, limited drainage, and sanitation gaps.

Participants, including traders and community representatives, provided firsthand accounts of how these conditions affect their productivity and business operations. Mr. **Peter, the Market Chair**, emphasized the need for **additional covered stalls** and improved organization to enhance trading efficiency.

2.2 Trader Concerns: Space and Protection Against Adverse Weather

Traders expressed concerns regarding the **limited number of stalls**, exposure to rain, and the need for better space allocation. Stakeholders discussed potential solutions, including phased stall expansion and relocation of temporary structures to create wider walkways.

The **Ward Administrator** reassured traders that the municipality would consider **practical measures for additional stalls and weather protection**, and that feedback collected during the forum would inform future planning.

2.3 Market Cleanliness, Drainage, and Organized Trading Environments

Discussions focused on improving the **hygiene and organization** of Rongo Modern Market. Key points included:

- Regular garbage collection and proper disposal.
- Clear demarcation of trading zones to reduce congestion.
- Rehabilitation and expansion of drainage channels to prevent flooding during heavy rains.
- Encouraging traders and community members to actively maintain cleanliness.

Elisha Odhiambo, a Central Kamagambo Ward Admin, highlighted, *"A well-maintained and organized market benefits both traders and customers. Cooperation is essential to sustain cleanliness and safety."*

Municipal staff committed to **routine monitoring, cleaning schedules, and enforcement of proper market practices**.

2.4 Gender-Inclusive Participation

The forum concluded with a focus on **inclusive engagement**, ensuring women and youth actively participate in market planning, stall allocation, and decision-making processes.

The Municipal Manager stated:

"Our municipality is committed to gender equality. Women and youth must have a voice in all decisions affecting market operations and infrastructure development."

Stakeholders were encouraged to report issues through the **Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)** to ensure accountability and responsiveness.

3. RESOLUTIONS

1. Prioritize the construction and allocation of additional covered stalls to protect traders from adverse weather.
2. Strengthen drainage systems and expand sanitation facilities.
3. Maintain a clean, organized, and safe trading environment.
4. Promote structured engagement with traders through the PSEF and market management committees.
5. Ensure gender-inclusive participation and GRM awareness in all municipal planning processes.

4. ACTION POINTS

- Call for public participation for municipal planned projects modern stalls and address areas vulnerable to rain – **social Departments**.
- Implement routine waste collection and cleaning schedules – **Environment & Market Departments**.
- Upgrade drainage channels and sanitation facilities – **Planning & Works Departments**.
- Continue trader engagement through structured consultations and communication channels – **Market Management Committee**.
- Disseminate GRM and gender awareness programs – **Municipal Administration**.

5. CONCLUSION

The Citizen fora Event successfully:

- Reviewed the **Rongo Modern Market** and identified priority areas for improvement.

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- Addressed **trader concerns on space, stall allocation, and protection against adverse weather.**
- Discussed strategies for **market cleanliness, drainage, and organized trading environments.**
- Reinforced **gender-inclusive participation and GRM awareness.**

The forum was formally closed at **12:00 PM**, with a vote of thanks from the Municipal Manager acknowledging the **constructive contributions of all participants.**

Prepared by:

David Ore
Municipal Manager / Secretary to the Board

Approved by:

Brighton Angienda
Chairperson, Rongo Municipal Board