

How New AI-Powered CT Scanners, Labs, & Operating Theatres are Transforming Healthcare in Rural Communities

Sunview Medipro installs over 3000 laboratory machines, 32 AI-driven CT scanners, and 40 modern theatres in county and subcounty hospitals across Kenya under NESP

By Sumaya Hussein & Edwin Kavoi

For decades, lifesaving diagnosis for families in rural counties depended on distance, luck, and cost. A suspected stroke, trauma injury, or unexplained illness could mean travelling hours, sometimes over 200 kilometres, to access a CT scan or essential lab tests. Many patients never made it in time. Today, that story is changing.

Across counties such as Samburu, West Pokot, Marsabit, Isiolo, Mandera, Garissa, Lamu, and Wajir, clinicians report a dramatic shift in how fast they can diagnose and treat patients.

Under the National Equipment Service Program (NESP), Sunview Medipro International has deployed AI-powered CT scanners in 32 counties, installed 3,400 modern laboratory machines in 75 hospitals, and begun rolling out 40 fully equipped operating theatres nationwide.

This combination of imaging, laboratory, and surgical upgrades is reshaping healthcare delivery for communities that have historically been underserved.

AI-Powered CT Scanners Bring Precision to Rural Counties

During the commissioning of a modern AI-powered CT scanner at Nakuru County Teaching & Referral Hospital on October 29, 2025, President William Ruto praised the government's model of accessing high-quality equipment without financial strain.

"The primary objective of the government is to treat citizens. Owning the equipment is secondary. If we can find somebody to own the equipment and we just get the service, the better for us," said President Ruto.

The new 128-slice AI-driven CT scanners offer sharper images, faster scan times, and intelligent detection systems that help



Sunview CEO Sirat Amin showcases new AI-powered CT Scan to President William Ruto during its commissioning at the Nakuru County Teaching & Referral Hospital on October 29, 2025

clinicians diagnose stroke, trauma injuries and chest complications early and accurately. Head Radiographer Richard Adomeyon of Nakuru County Referral Hospital said:

"This CT scanner has changed how we work in emergencies. We no longer guess. We know what we're treating, and we know it fast."

He noted that the hospital has tripled the number of scans, from 50 to over 200 patients, with fewer errors thanks to AI.

In Mandera, where referral transport was once a major barrier, 63-year-old pastoralist Rashid Ahmed said:

"If you needed a CT scan, you'd have to travel far. Sometimes to Nairobi and most times you don't even have the fare. Now I can be scanned in my own county. It feels like someone finally remembered us."

3,400 Laboratory Machines Strengthen Diagnostics in 75 Hospitals

While CT scanners attract attention, the 3,400 newly installed laboratory machines, including biochemistry, hematology, and electrolyte analyzers, are transforming everyday healthcare in ways many patients feel directly.

Before installation, some rural hospitals packed blood samples into vehicles and sent them to neighbouring counties, waiting days for results. Today, lab clinicians run tests within minutes,

enabling faster diagnosis things such as infections, electrolyte imbalances, bleeding disorders, kidney problems, and chronic diseases.

A Makueni lab technologist, Grace Mwendu, described the shift:

"We used to pack samples into a vehicle and pray they reached the other hospital safely. Now tests are done here, and results guide treatment immediately."

These machines have strengthened maternal care, emergency response, and routine outpatient services, significantly reducing delays that once cost lives.



Sunview Directors Bruce Mutua and Njoki Njonjo view an automated chemistry analyzer at the Sunview Warehouse.

Modern Operating Theatres Expand Surgical Capacity

Alongside imaging and laboratory upgrades, Sunview Medipro has begun installing modern, fully equipped

operating theatres under NESP. Forty theatres have been completed in Kajiado, Kirinyaga, Kisii, Kisumu, Kitui, Kwale, Tharaka Nithi, and Wajir.

Each unit includes modern theatre lights, operating table, anaesthetic machine, patient monitors, infusion & syringe pumps, and other theatre essentials for emergency and elective surgeries.

These theatres drastically reduce delays for trauma care, maternal emergencies, and life-threatening surgical conditions.

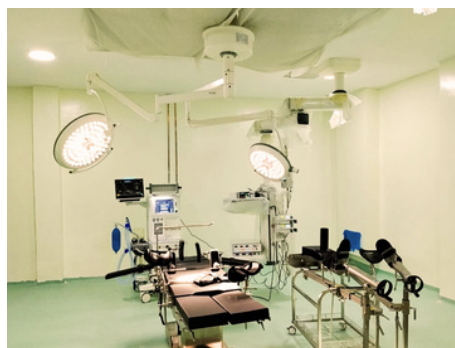
During an installation at Kitengela Sub-County Hospital, Kajiado Health CECM Alex Kilowua said:

"Through the NESP program, we've been able to install a number of machines in Kajiado County, including this new theatre. This program allows hospitals to get equipment on a need-basis and is making health a reality."

Medical Superintendent Dr. Veronica Abuto added that the hospital conducts up to 500 deliveries monthly:

"All along we had one operating theatre. With the new theatre, we are going to address issues of maternal health and ensure our mothers go home healthy and with healthy babies."

Sunview also provides training for surgeons, nurses, aestheticians, and biomedical engineers to ensure safety and efficiency, with plans to install up to 400 theatres nationwide.



Fully-equipped theatre installed at the Wajir County Referral Hospital



CECM Medical Services and Public Health Alex Kilowua launches a modern theatre at Kitengela Sub County Hospital in Kajiado County.

Communities Feel Seen Again

Families across Kenya, from Samburu to Lamu, are experiencing improved access to healthcare, with faster diagnostics for accident victims, mothers, and the elderly. Radiologists and hospital staff highlight how modern equipment has made patients feel valued and "seen." Sunview Medipro emphasizes that their support extends beyond delivery, ensuring machines remain functional and accessible. With more installations planned, rural hospitals are rapidly reaching global standards, transforming healthcare and improving lives for thousands of families.

How the NESP Fee-for-Service (FFS) Model Works

Under NESP's FFS model, counties receive advanced medical equipment without paying upfront costs. Contracted suppliers handle installation, maintenance, servicing, training, and uptime support, while reimbursement is done through the Social Health Authority (SHA) based on usage.

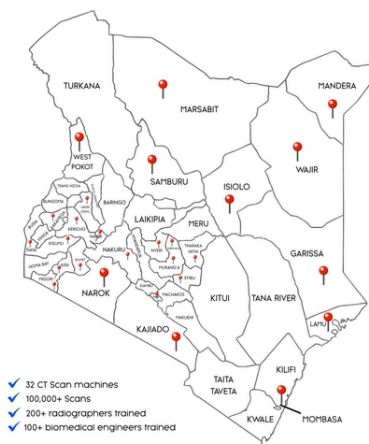
The model guarantees reliable uptime, continuous servicing, predictable costs for counties, reduced equipment breakdowns. This has been especially critical for rural facilities where even hours of downtime can mean preventable deaths.

Modern Mammogram Machine Operational at KNH

A modern digital mammography unit is now fully operational at Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) in Nairobi, improving breast cancer screening and early detection. KNH radiographer Brigid Kawa says the modern machine produces sharper, clearer images while offering greater comfort through softer padding. The adjustable unit can accommodate patients in wheelchairs and taller individuals. Women aged 35 and above, as well as men, are encouraged to go for screening. Similar machines have also been installed at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching & Referral Hospital in Kisumu and Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Eldoret.



KNH Radiographer Brigid Kawa (Right) and Sunview Head of Radiology Yussuf Daud (left) view newly installed mammogram unit at Kenyatta National Hospital



A map showing CT Scan installations in Kenyan Counties