

## Farmers sign up for UAP's crop insurance

By Correspondent

**M**aize farmers in areas prone to unpredictable weather from Central, Nyanza, Eastern, Upper Coast and lower Western regions have signed up for UAP's Crop Insurance that will guarantee compensation to replenish seeds in case they fail to germinate.

The program, known as "Replanting Guarantee" has so far attracted over 40,000 farmers in the last two years according to James Wambugu, UAP-Old Mutual Group Managing Director, General Insurance.

The Replanting Guarantee cover is a partnership between UAP Insurance, Acre Africa, SeedCo and Safaricom where farmers register via short text messages.

"With the Kenya Meteorological Department predicting lower rainfall this year, we expect to register at least 900,000 farmers this year, indicating the severity with which farmers are taking the year's planting season," Wambugu said.

He added that products uptake has been phenomenal in the last three years. "We have seen a rising population of farmers using certified seeds that are suitable for their respective weather patterns. It's our intent to ensure that farmers do not suffer as a result of erratic weather patterns," he stated.

The cover uses mobile phone technology to provide the service to farmers, enabling them to re-invest in another bag of seeds within the planting period should their crop be affected by adverse weather conditions within 21 days of planting the purchased seed.

"All registered farmers are guaranteed to automatically receive, a full refund via M-Pesa to purchase another bag and replant within the current rainy season with good seeds and get that bumper harvest," Wambugu concluded.

## Cytonn, CATIC in a Kshs 3 Billion development project



The development targets a capital appreciation of 23% per annum during development period, which is estimated to be two and a half years.

By Jacktone Lawi

**C**ytonn Real Estate has partnered with international contractor China National Aero Technology International Engineering Corporation (CATIC) to develop a Kshs 3 Billion comprehensive lifestyle development project in Ruaka

Strategically located in the heart of the fast growing Ruaka neighborhood, The Alma is a comprehensive lifestyle development encompassing 408 modern apartments with impeccable finishing, and will also encompass a commercial facility to provide basic necessities to the residents, a lifestyle clubhouse for residents, high levels of security, a borehole, an elevated playground for children and ample parking facility.

The development targets a capital appreciation of 23% per annum during development period, which is estimated to be two and a half years.

These 1, 2 and 3 bedroom apartment options are set across a 4.18-acre parcel of land located on the main Limuru road, 100 meters from the junction of the northern bypass, and a 5-minute

commute from retail and commercial facilities such as Two Rivers mall, Village Market, and the Rosslyn mall development.

"Our deal pipeline serves the various segments of the market ranging from the high end, such as the Amara Ridge whose construction is ongoing in Karen, to the middle to lower-middle income like The Alma, which will offer a comprehensive lifestyle and a secure community to the future families" said Cytonn's Chief Investment Officer Elizabeth Nkukuu, at the groundbreaking ceremony.

"In addition to safe neighborhoods, through real estate, we aim to create more jobs, grow the economy and raise the standards of living in the country.

At its peak, the development will have created over 1,000 jobs mainly for Kiambu County," added Elizabeth Nkukuu.

CATIC are popularly known for constructing developments in Nairobi such as the upcoming Two Rivers Mall, Old Mutual- UAP towers, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport Terminal, Karen Bogani Villas among others.