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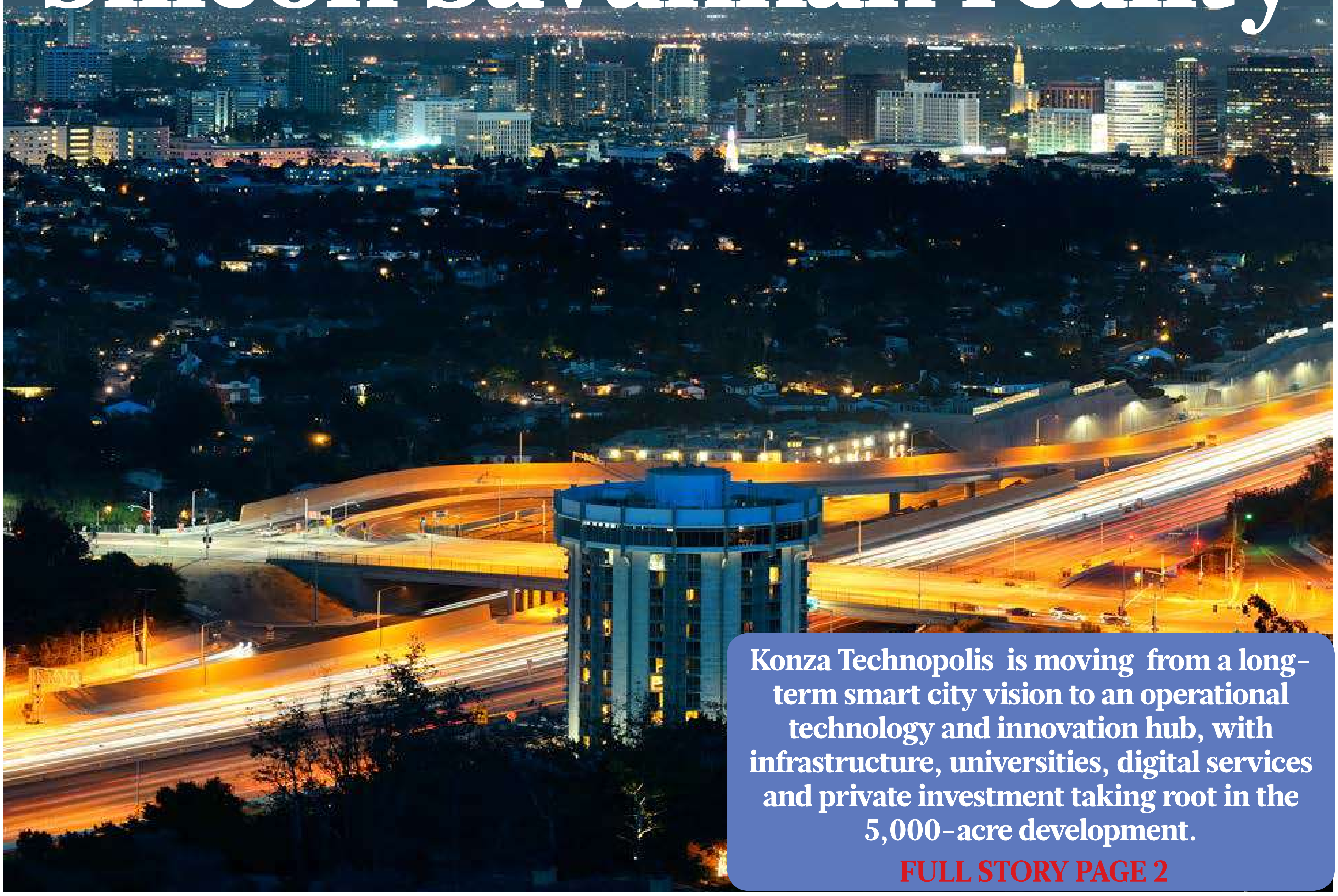
Konza: From Vision to Silicon Savannah reality



Konza Technopolis is moving from a long-term smart city vision to an operational technology and innovation hub, with infrastructure, universities, digital services and private investment taking root in the 5,000-acre development.

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Konza: From Vision to Silicon Savannah reality

Road infrastructure at Konza City

BY DONALD NGALA (KNA)

Konza Technopolis is moving from a long-term smart city vision to an operational technology and innovation hub, with infrastructure, universities, digital services and private investment taking root in the 5,000-acre development.

The progress is positioning the flagship Vision 2030 project as a potential engine for Kenya's digital economy, with the Technopolis now home to about 30 companies and 80 per cent of its first phase committed to investors.

Chief Manager for Business Development and Innovation at Konza Technopolis, Josephine Ndambuki, said Phase One has been completed, commissioned and is operational, with efforts now focused on attracting more investment and accelerating development.

Speaking to the Kenya News Agency during a Government Delivery Unit inspection of projects at Konza, Ndambuki said the development is anchored on three key sectors—ICT and IT-enabled services, life sciences, and engineering.

At full development, Konza is projected to accommodate more than 240,000 workers and contribute about two per cent to Kenya's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The transformation is being supported by major infrastructure, including a 40-kilometre bitumen road network, fibre-optic connectivity, electricity, water and drainage systems, solid waste facilities and smart city installations.

Other completed facilities include a wastewater reclamation plant designed to recycle up to 70 per cent of treated water for reuse, a fresh-water treatment facility and smart city installations.

The infrastructure also includes smart poles equipped for security, public communication, advertising and street lighting.

At the heart of Konza's technology ambitions is the Konza National Data Centre and Konza Cloud, which provide digital infrastructure to government and private-sector users.

Ndambuki said the National Data Centre is operational and hosts more than 100 solutions, working with over 90 partners to develop and commercialise local technology.

Konza Cloud, meanwhile, supports thousands of government digital applications and is being developed to host a Silicon Savannah App Store where Kenyan innovators can deploy and scale locally developed solutions.

"The National Data Centre is operational and currently hosts more than 100 solutions serving public and private sector users," Ndambuki said.

The data centre has attained Uptime Institute Tier III and LEED Platinum certifications, while an offsite Business Continuity Park provides additional resilience for critical digital services.

Konza is also expanding digital inclusion through the Jitume Digital Enablement Programme, with 355 digital hubs established in more than 40 counties. The hubs provide access to digital skills, devices, artificial intelligence training, online work and e-government services.

Education and research are emerging as another pillar of Konza Technopolis.

The Kenya Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (Kenya-AIST) has been established at Konza. It received its Charter this year and is expected to offer postgraduate programmes in engineering, ICT and agricultural biotechnology, among other fields.

The Open University of Kenya, which operates fully online, is also hosted at Konza and has grown to more than 20,000 students in 10 countries.

Riara University has established a campus at the Technopolis and is preparing to admit its first students in September 2026.

The institutions are expected to strengthen research, skills development and commercialisation of emerging technologies.

Konza has also reached more than 15,000 college and university students through its NextGen Explorers programme, while innovation hubs and technology support centres are providing incubation, mentorship and market access to startups.

The Konza Technopolis Development Authority (KoTDA) also organizes technology bootcamps for children and supports science congresses and other technology-related activities.

"It reached 120 students through a children's technology bootcamp in the 2024/25 financial year and another 150 students in the first quarter of the 2025/26 financial year," Ndambuki said.

Konza is also positioning itself as a centre for Kenya's creative and emerging technology industries. A 160-acre Digital Media City is under development, with plans for multimedia training, gaming, animation, music production and post-production studios. The project is being supported through the Kenya-Korea Economic Development Cooperation framework.

The Technopolis also hosts Kenya's first Kenya Civil Aviation Authority-certified Drone Zone, providing a controlled environment for testing and demonstrating unmanned aerial systems for applications ranging from agriculture and logistics to infrastructure inspection and environmental monitoring.

Construction of the Konza Convention Centre is at an advanced stage, while specialised projects including a biopharma park, vaccine production facility, nuclear research hub, smart industrial park and TVET centre are in various stages of development.

Ndambuki said the next phase will focus on accelerating investment, expanding infrastructure, strengthening innovation and completing key projects needed to transform Konza into a fully integrated technology and economic hub.

Why Kenya needs a new vision beyond 2030

1. President William Ruto speaking in Nairobi during the launch of the dialogue over the development of a new long-term national development vision beyond 2030.
2. Senior government officials and delegates in Nairobi during the launch of the dialogue over the development of a new long-term national development vision beyond 2030. Photo courtesy.

BY NANCY OMONDI AND PHAELINE MOTARI (KNA)

Kenya has embarked on a national conversation to shape its next development vision, setting the stage for a new chapter in the country's pursuit of inclusive and sustainable prosperity.

During the launch, President William Ruto called for the development of a new long-term national development vision beyond 2030, saying Kenya must plan for future generations rather than allow electoral cycles and changes in administration to determine the country's development priorities.

The president further said the need for a new vision had become urgent because the current Medium-Term Plan IV ends in 2027, while the proposed Medium-Term Plan V will run from 2027 to 2032, overlapping with the expiry of Kenya Vision 2030.

"We need to have a long-term vision for us to be able to plan Medium-Term Plan Five," Ruto said during a national conversation on Kenya's development beyond 2030 in Nairobi on Wednesday.

Ruto stated that the new vision should reflect the country's changed circumstances, including rapid technological advancement, artificial intelligence, emerging global economic trends and the opportunities presented by Africa's growing population and markets.

Furthermore, he noted that Vision 2030 was formulated before the promulgation of the 2010 Constitution, which provides for public participation in national affairs.

"We have an opportunity, this time around, different from the opportunity that was in 2008, to formulate a long-term plan, one that is done by the people, not by government, not by bureaucrats, by the people themselves," he said.

Kenya should use the process to determine how it can position itself to benefit from Africa's growing global economic significance, citing the continent's youthful population, renewable energy potential, emerging markets and large reserves of arable land as per what he thought on the matter.

"Kenya must think beyond the next election. Kenya must think for the next generation," he said, urging Kenyans to look beyond individual election cycles and administrations when considering the country's future.

The government, as its role stipulates, would facilitate the process but should not dictate its outcome, calling for contributions from the private sector, farmers, students, academia, civil society and other sectors.

The president further proposed the formation of a multi-sectoral team whose members would be suggested by various sectors of society to lead the process of developing a roadmap for the new vision and the eventual framework should be anchored in legislation to ensure continuity across successive administrations.

"Part of the challenge we had in Vision 2030 was that it wasn't underpinned by any law," Ruto said, noting that successive administrations were therefore not legally obligated to implement the national vision.

The legislation would play a part in ensuring that future governments build on agreed national priorities instead of reversing them whenever there is a change of administration.

The Chairman of the Vision 2030 Delivery Secretariat Dr Emmanuel Nzai said the implementation of Kenya Vision 2030 projects had reached an aggregate 66.1 per cent since its launch in 2008.

Nzai said the political pillar had recorded the highest performance at 88 per cent, followed by foundations and enablers at 61.6 per cent and the social pillar at 59 per cent.

"The economic pillar has the lowest. The targets that we put were very, very aggressive - 10 per cent GDP growth consistently. That we have not achieved," he said.

He revealed the real GDP growth had averaged between 4.5 and 4.6 per cent, despite the resilience of the economy and progress in implementing various reforms.

He stated that the Vision 2030 framework had been implemented through successive five-year plans and that the current process was necessary because the next plan would extend beyond the lifespan of Vision 2030.

Government steps up El Nino preparedness

BY MUNYASYA MUSYA AND ANITA OMWENGA

The State Department for Special Programmes has commenced preparations to mitigate and respond to the anticipated impacts of the enhanced October-November-December (OND) 2026 rainfall.

In a communication to heads of departments, Principal Secretary for Special Programmes Mr. Ismail Maadey outlined the measures the department will take to deal with the expected heavy rains.

This follows a high-level Government consultative meeting chaired by Deputy President Prof. Kithure Kindiki where ministries, departments, government agencies and county governments were directed to start preparations to combat the impacts of the anticipated El Nino rains.

Mr. Maadey said his department will ensure availability of adequate supplies and humanitarian assistance for communities affected by the El Nino rains.

He further noted that food and non-food items are to be pre-positioned by September 2026 ahead of the rains.

Mr. Maadey said the Department for Special Programmes will also procure adequate quantities of iron sheets, tents and other essential shelter materials for emergency response.

"The Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes will coordinate additional appropriate flood mitigation measures with other Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

Earlier last week, the Government identified 18 counties at risk of the effects from the anticipated El Nino.

According to the national risk assessment, counties in the Coastal, Lake Basin, Rift Valley and North Eastern regions are among the areas facing the highest level of vulnerability. Nairobi, Mombasa and Kisumu were singled out as high-risk urban centres.

The Kenya Meteorological Service Authority has indicated that the country may experience above-normal rainfall from October this year as a strong El Nino event forms up.

According to the weather authority, there is an 81 per cent chance that this year's El Nino will be strong and a 97 per cent probability that its effects will be felt up to early next year.

The Director of the National Disaster Operations Centre, Col (Rtd) David Samoei said as part of a wider plan to mitigate the effects to the El Nino, the Government has mapped out areas exposed to various risks, including flash floods, landslides, drought, disease outbreaks and infrastructure damage.

"The identified counties have been prioritized in the response planning based on their vulnerability to various risks" said Samoei adding that more areas may be included in the plan if experts consider them vulnerable to El Nino risks.

In the Coast Region, Tana River, Kilifi, Lamu, Mombasa and Kwale may experience flooding, storm surges, coastal erosion and infrastructure damage. Residents of some areas in the region may be displaced by floods.

In the Lake Basin region, Kisumu, Busia, Siaya, Homa Bay and Migori are expected to experience flooding, landslides, disease outbreaks and cases of displacements.

Risks identified for the urban centres of Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu include flooding, drainage blockages, infrastructure strain and service disruptions.

In the Rift Valley Region, counties such as Turkana, Baringo, West Pokot and Narok may experience drought, flash floods, landslides, livestock losses and food insecurity.

The North Eastern Region counties of Garissa, Wajir and Mandera may experience drought, water scarcity, livestock losses, poor pasture and food insecurity.

Samoei said the National Emergency Multi-Agency and County Emergency response teams have been put on high alert and are being sensitized on their roles in view of the expected weather situations.

Government to construct 13 new Level 5 county referral hospitals

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A (KNA)

The Government has set aside Sh29 billion for the construction of 13 new Level 5 comprehensive county referral hospitals, each with a capacity of 300 beds, in a major investment aimed at expanding access to specialised healthcare across the country.

The planned hospitals are part of efforts to strengthen Kenya's health infrastructure and advance Universal Health Coverage by bringing specialised and critical care services closer to communities.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale chaired a high-level consultative meeting to review plans for the projects, which are being undertaken in line with a presidential directive.

The proposed facilities will be located in Kilifi, Mandera, Marsabit, Embu, Migori, Nyamira, Turkana, Baringo, Nakuru, Bomet, Narok and Laikipia.

The Ministry has, however, indicated that the programme covers 13 hospitals while only 12 counties are currently listed, leaving the location of the 13th facility to be clarified.

The investment is expected to significantly increase the availability of specialised services at county level while easing pressure on national referral hospitals.

Each facility will be designed to provide modern diagnostic and treatment services, including at least 16 intensive care unit (ICU) beds and 10 high dependency unit (HDU) beds.

The hospitals will also incorporate modern medical equipment and infrastructure designed to support both patients and healthcare workers.

The projects will use sustainable and climate-resilient designs, with features including green engineering and solar energy.

The Government says the approach is intended to ensure that the new facilities remain efficient and resilient while meeting growing healthcare needs.

The selection of beneficiary counties is based on factors including population size, disease burden, existing health infrastructure and opportunities for financing through the Government, development partners and private-sector partnerships.

The approach is intended to channel resources to areas with the greatest need and address disparities in access to specialised medical services.

The Sh29 billion programme will complement other major health infrastructure projects, including the first phase of the 2,000-bed Kiplombe Multi-Specialty Hospital

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale chairing a high-level consultative meeting with governors to deliberate on the Government's plan to construct 13 new Level 5 county referral hospitals each with a capacity of 300 beds at a cost of Sh29 billion. Photo by Joseph Ng'ang'a.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Counties will be expected to secure land, obtain the necessary approvals, ensure availability of utilities and prepare staffing and operational plans. These measures are intended to ensure the hospitals can begin providing services soon after construction is completed.

The investment comes as Kenya seeks to strengthen a health system comprising 14,883 health facilities, while expanding access to specialised and critical care outside the country's major referral centres.

The Government expects the new hospitals to reduce the need for patients to travel long distances for specialised treatment and to relieve congestion at national referral hospitals.

The consultative meeting brought together Medical Services Principal Secretary Dr Ouma Oluga, Mombasa Governor and Chairperson of the Council of Governors Health Committee Abdullswamad Nassir, Migori Governor Ochilo Ayacko, Turkana Governor Jeremiah Ekama, Embu Governor Cecily Mbarire, Laikipia Governor Joshua Irungu, Kisii Governor Simba Arati and Marsabit Governor Mohamud Mohamed.

Also present were Presidential Advisor on Health Wilson Aruasa, Head of Health Infrastructure, Projects and Grants Management Dr Hezron Omolo, representatives of county governments and other Ministry officials.

PRSK to celebrate 55 years of excellence at annual awards gala

In pursuit of excellence, PRSK will be holding its 24th Excellence Awards on 27th August 2026. Excellence remains central to the public relations agenda, advancing the profession by promoting credibility, innovation and strategic communication that drives impact and builds trust.

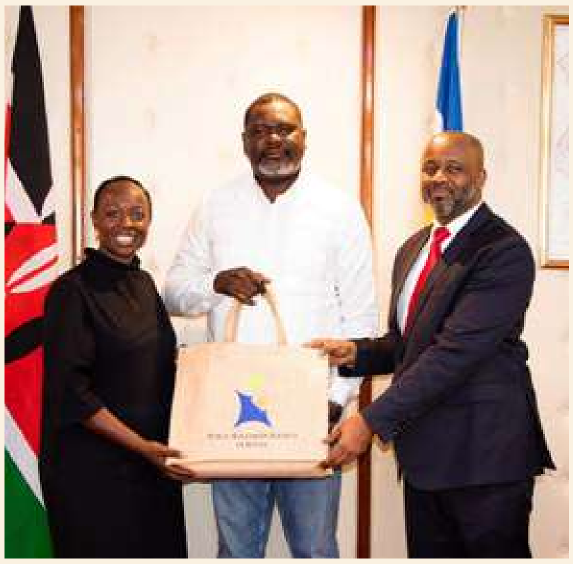
BY HILDA CHESHARI (MYGOV)

The Public Relations Society of Kenya (PRSK) will mark 55 years of advancing professional communication in the country during its 24th Excellence Awards Gala Dinner scheduled for August 27 in Nairobi.

The event, is expected to bring together about 500 communication professionals, corporate executives, government officials and industry stakeholders to celebrate excellence in strategic communication and public relations.

Public Service Cabinet Secretary Geoffrey Ruku, who will preside over the gala as chief guest, said effective communication remains critical in strengthening leadership, public trust and institutional credibility.

"The PRSK Excellence Awards recognize professionals and institutions whose commitment to excellence continues to strengthen the quality of communication in Kenya. As PRSK marks 55 years, this celebration is a powerful reminder that investing in credible and strategic communication is investing in stronger institutions and a more informed society," he said.



Public Relations Society of Kenya (PRSK) Secretary General Noella Mutanda(Left), during a courtesy call to the Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Geoffrey Ruku (C), to brief him on the upcoming awards.

The awards gala, themed "The Vintage Experience," will culminate in the recognition of individuals and organizations that have demonstrated outstanding achievement in communication practice.

Beyond the awards, the event will commemorate PRSK's 55-year contribution to promoting professionalism, ethical standards and excellence in public relations. The society says the milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on the evolution of the communication profession and its role in national development.

PRSK President Arik Karani said the anniversary celebration will honour the pioneers who laid the foundation for the profession while inspiring a new generation of communication practitioners.

"As we celebrate 55 years of PRSK, we honour a journey built by visionary founders, dedicated leaders and committed members who have strengthened our profession through every generation. This year's Excellence Awards invite us to reflect, celebrate and recommit to shaping a future defined by professionalism, ethics and excellence," Karani said.

Founded in 1971, PRSK has played a central role in advancing public relations practice in Kenya through professional development, advocacy and the promotion of ethical communication standards. The society said the anniversary celebrations will reaffirm its commitment to shaping the future of strategic communication in the country.

Garissa Airport upgrade boosts connectivity, investment

Garissa airport administration and control building.

INSET: 1. Garissa governor Nathif Jama speaking at the Garissa Airport during the launch of a new airline; Skyward Express to the Nairobi – Garissa route.

BY ERICK KYALO (KNA)

The Garissa airport resumed operations following a Sh 710-million modernization project funded jointly by the national government and the County Government of Garissa.

Barely a month after, airline companies have started flying the Nairobi-Garissa route, a move that will strengthen air connectivity and open new opportunities for the people of Garissa and the wider North Eastern region.

The upgraded facility, which had been partially closed to allow rehabilitation works, features an expanded runway, improved taxiways, VIP halls, checking-in lobbies, a prayer area and a larger apron designed to accommodate more aircraft and enhance operational efficiency.

According to Garissa governor Nathif Jama who graced the launch of a new airline service at the Garissa airport, the introduction of this scheduled service will improve accessibility to Garissa, facilitate the movement of people and goods, and contribute to the growth of tourism, trade, investment and socio-economic activity in the region.

Jama noted that the investment in modernizing the airport has started to bear fruits, and will attract more business opportunities when the Kenya Airport Authority (KAA) fully equips the airport.

“When we said that let’s expand the runway and the terminal as a joint initiative between the county and the national government, we knew that we were heading somewhere. I am happy that today, those fruits are being realized. Today in Garissa, we are talking about airline companies serving us,” Jama said.

“We have this terminal, two VIP halls, a waiting bay for the public, prayer area and checking-in areas. This is now a complete terminal. We thank the Skyward express for trusting us and for seeing the opportunity in Garissa,” he added.

KAA Manager for Airport Operations at Wilson airport and Northern Region Captain Mohamed Abdi lauded the airline for considering the new route for business, while giving assurance of continued cooperation between the authority and the airlines for the safety and comfort of the passengers.

Captain Abdi reiterated that the introduction of the new service for Garissa airport was not simply about adding another flight to the schedule but strengthening connectivity, opening new opportunities and bringing communities closer to the rest of the country.

“Kenya Airports Authority is committed to providing safe, secure, efficient and reliable airport infrastructure that enables airlines to operate effectively and passengers to travel with confidence. We are therefore delighted to welcome Skyward Express as a partner in expanding air connectivity through Garissa airport,” Captain Abdi said.

“We also recognize the contribution of the county government of Garissa for the construction of the terminal building. As we launch this new service we are not only celebrating a new route, we are accelerating opportunity, connectivity and a shared vision for the development of the North eastern region,” he added.

Wajir students win national STEM exhibition with AI drought warning system

BY HAMDI BUTHUL (KNA)

Two students from Senior Chief Adano Girls Day Secondary School in Wajir County have won the overall title at the ninth Young Scientists Kenya (YSK) National Science and Technology Exhibition.

Hafsa Ibrahim Adan and Asha Harun Yarow emerged first overall with their AI-Based Environmental Monitoring and Drought Risk Prediction System for Climate-Vulnerable Communities in North Eastern Kenya, beating more than 300 finalists drawn from 125 schools across the country.

Their project collects data from sensors monitoring soil moisture, temperature, humidity and rainfall, which is analyzed by an artificial intelligence model to generate a drought-risk score and indicate the likelihood of drought.

The system also estimates the number of days remaining before drought conditions are likely to develop, providing farmers and communities with early information to prepare irrigation systems, manage scarce water resources and protect crops and livestock.

The Wajir students were among young innovators from Northern Kenya who secured the top two national positions at the exhibition held at Moi Girls High School in Nairobi under the theme, "Shaping Kenya's AI Future Using STEM."

Second place went to Halima Aila Mohamed, Sake Hussein Tadicha and Manal Mohamed from Zad Muslim School in Marsabit County for Eco-Guard, an automated smart garden designed to conserve water, protect crops and improve food production in arid areas.

The system combines a protected greenhouse with automated irrigation and temperature control. A soil-moisture sensor activates a water pump when the soil becomes dry and stops once the required moisture level is reached.

It also has a temperature sensor that triggers an automated roof to open when temperatures inside the garden rise beyond a set level.

The projects demonstrates how students in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) are applying STEM and emerging technologies to challenges that comes with drought including food insecurity and water scarcity.

The 2026 exhibition attracted 308 finalists selected from more than 1,500 project submissions received from across the country.

Girls formed the majority of participants and featured prominently among the winners. More than 20 students from refugee camps participated with support from UNICEF, with several receiving awards in different categories.

Chief Guest and UNICEF Kenya Deputy Representative for Programmes Mahboob Bajwa said the projects demonstrated the importance of involving young people in Kenya's technological development.

"Kenya's AI future will not be built by algorithms alone. It will be built by young people," Bajwa said.

Dr. Victor Mwongera, National Director of Young Scientists Kenya (centre), celebrates with Hafsa Ibrahim Adan (left) and Asha Harun Yarow (right) from Senior Chief Adano Girls Day Secondary School in Wajir County after they were named First Place Overall at the ninth Young Scientists Kenya National Science and Technology Exhibition held at Moi Girls High School in Nairobi.

She said artificial intelligence was changing how societies learn, work and address complex challenges, noting that the students had demonstrated their ability to apply AI and STEM knowledge to issues affecting agriculture, education, health and climate resilience.

As overall winners, Hafsa and Asha each received Sh50,000, a fully funded STEM course scholarship at Strathmore University and a smartphone courtesy of Safaricom.

They will also represent Kenya at the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition in Dublin, Ireland, through an all-expenses-paid trip.

Deputy Head of Mission at the Embassy of Ireland in Kenya Evelyn Maris reaffirmed Ireland's partnership with Young Scientists Kenya, noting that the country was among the initiative's founding partners in 2017.

"The programme aligns with our ambitions around innovation, science and education," Maris said.

She said YSK draws from the experience of Ireland's Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition, which has operated since the 1960s and contributed to the development of Ireland's STEM ecosystem and economy.

All category winners will participate in the YSK STEM Boot Camp, where industry partners will support them in improving their prototypes, understanding intellectual property protection and developing their innovations beyond the exhibition.

The students also interacted with technology professionals and industry partners during the exhibition, including at the Oracle booth, where they were introduced to applications of AI and cloud technologies in data analysis, automation, research and decision-making.

KRA customs revenue hits record Sh92.53 billion in July

BY CHRIS MAHANDARA (KNA)

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) Customs and Border Control Department collected a record Sh92.53 billion in July, exceeding its monthly target by Sh6.37 billion as it opened the 2026/2027 financial year on a strong footing.

According to Customs and Border Control Commissioner Dr. Lilian Nyawanda, the July collection was the highest monthly revenue ever recorded by the department and surpassed the Treasury target of Sh86.16 billion by Sh6.37 billion.

The performance translated to 107.39 per cent of the target and represented a 15.3 per cent increase from the Sh80.29 billion collected in July 2025, Nyawanda said.

Nyawanda said the latest milestone followed another strong performance in June, when Customs collected Sh89.1 billion, which was then the department's highest monthly collection.

The two consecutive record-breaking months, she said, demonstrate sustained momentum in Customs revenue mobilisation and the department's growing contribution to economic development.

A key contributor to the July performance was the growth in non-oil revenue, which reached Sh61.50 billion.

Nyawanda said this was the first time in the history of KRA that Customs' non-oil revenue collection had crossed the Sh60 billion mark, highlighting the growing contribution of non-oil sources to the department's revenue performance.

She attributed the improved revenue performance to measures that KRA has put in place to strengthen compliance and modernise customs administration.

These include increased use of technology, improved cargo management and efforts to facilitate legitimate trade through the country's borders and the Port of Mombasa, according to Nyawanda.

Nyawanda said KRA had continued implementing reforms aimed at making Customs operations more efficient, transparent and predictable for traders while strengthening controls to protect government revenue.

The reforms include increased use of data and technology in cargo risk management, improved declaration processing and enhanced enforcement against illicit trade and revenue leakage.

The commissioner said the record July collection was a significant milestone for the authority and provided a strong start to the new financial year.

She said the performance demonstrated that KRA's investments in technology, compliance, trade facilitation and collaboration with stakeholders were beginning to deliver results.

Modern technology key to agricultural transformation-Mudavadi

BY SAMMY MWIBANDA (KNA)

Adoption of modern technology and stronger market linkages is critical in transforming Kenya's agricultural sector.

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi has said the Government, in collaboration with development partners, is equipping farmers with skills and tools to increase productivity, reduce losses and improve incomes.

Mudavadi was speaking in Kaimosi Agricultural Training Centre, Nandi County, during a field day where a new agricultural curriculum was launched.

He said the new curriculum will promote technological innovation, climate-smart farming and agribusiness among smallholder farmers and young people.

Mudavadi said Kenya's future food security and economic prosperity depends on the country's ability to harness technology and knowledge.

He said the new curriculum goes beyond conventional agricultural training as it provides farmers with practical skills in precision agriculture, climate-smart production, post-harvest management, market access and agribusiness.

"The future of agriculture depends on our ability to embrace technology and knowledge and put them in the hands of farmers," Mudavadi said.

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi (second Left), and Head of Public Service Felix Koskei (second Right), inspect certified seeds during a field day at Kaimosi Agricultural Training Centre in Nandi County.

He said the programme will help smallholder producers make informed decisions, improve resource utilisation and become more competitive in local and international markets.

The curriculum, developed through collaboration between FAO, local universities and industry partners, covers emerging agricultural technologies and business practices aimed at improving productivity and strengthening farmers' resilience to climate change.

Among the technologies being promoted are drones for crop monitoring and soil health assessment, as well as drip irrigation systems designed to conserve water.

Governor Sang, who was also in attendance, said Nandi County had historically played an important role in Kenya's agricultural production and that the new curriculum would strengthen farmers' capacity to compete in an increasingly demanding market.

He urged communities to embrace technological change, saying improved farming methods would open new income opportunities while reducing post-harvest losses.

Sang encouraged young people to view agriculture as a viable business rather than merely a traditional livelihood.

CA clarifies new cyber cafe license rules

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A (KNA)

The Communications Authority of Kenya has clarified new licensing requirements for cyber cafes and other public internet centres, saying the rules are aimed at strengthening accountability and security without restricting access to digital services.

The Authority clarified that the public communications access centres remain an important gateway to the internet for Kenyans without personal computers, reliable connectivity, or other digital resources.

The new licence conditions were published in the Kenya Gazette Notice Vol. CXXVIII No. 135 on August 7, 2026, and will take effect on September 7, following the statutory 30-day period.

Under the new rules, Public Communications Access Centres (PCAC) operators will be required to verify customers, display applicable charges, issue receipts for paid services, and maintain basic records necessary to demonstrate compliance with licences.

Records will provide an audit trail where a public internet facility is linked to unlawful activity, amid growing cyber-enabled fraud, online scams, identity related offences and other forms of cybercrime.

However, the Authority stressed that the requirements do not mean that cyber cafes will be required to keep customers' browsing histories. Instead, operators will only be required to maintain basic session information, comprising the terminal identification and the start and end times of a customer session.

"The requirement for PCACs to maintain basic user logs does not extend to a customer's browsing history," the Authority said.

The new licence conditions do not prescribe a particular customer identification system or CCTV solution.

Operators may, however, introduce additional Know Your Customer (KYC) measures as part of their security and operational controls, provided the measures comply with applicable laws.

The clarification follows public discussion and media coverage of the new conditions, which have raised questions over the extent of monitoring and identification requirements imposed on cyber cafés.

The regulatory approach seeks to strike a balance between access to digital services, consumer protection, privacy, and security.

Cyber cafés continue to play a role in enabling Kenyans to undertake online transactions, apply for government services, and participate in the digital economy, particularly among users who lack access to personal digital devices or dependable internet connections.

The Authority says it will continue engaging cybercafé operators and other stakeholders to promote understanding and compliance with the new requirements.

Operators and members of the public have been encouraged to consult Kenya Gazette Notice Vol. CXXVIII No. 135, published on August 7, for the full licence conditions and applicable requirements.

Taita Taveta cooperatives get Sh29.9 million boost for value addition

BY ARNOLD LINGA MASILA (KNA)

Three farmer cooperatives in Taita Taveta County have received Sh29.9 million to strengthen dairy and banana value chains, cut post-harvest losses and help farmers earn better prices for their produce.

The grants, disbursed under the National Agricultural Value Chain Development Project (NAVCDP), will support processing, packaging, market access and other investments aimed at moving farmers away from selling raw produce.

Taita Taveta Governor Andrew Mwadime, while handing over the grants, urged farmers to join cooperatives to pool resources and invest in value addition.

"When each farmer joins a cooperative society, you're putting together resources to ensure that your produce isn't going to leave in raw form but as finished products that fetch the maximum prices whether sold locally or across the country's borders," said Mwadime.

Tagho Dairy Cooperative received the largest share of Sh14.9 million, which will finance pasteurisation, processing and packaging facilities.

The cooperative's chairperson, Job Mwakesi, said the investment would help members avoid losses associated with selling raw milk, particularly when supply exceeds demand.

"We're looking to establish an entire milk chain of pasteurizing, processing, and packaging so that we no longer have to sell raw or at throw away prices from the fear of our milk going bad," said Mwakesi.

Taita Taveta Banana (TATABA) FCS Limited received KSh8.6 million to support banana production and solarise its Voi banana ripening chambers.

Its chairperson, Ndelejai Msangi, said high electricity costs and inadequate ripening facilities had contributed to significant post-harvest losses.

The third beneficiary, Mwafugha Dairy FCS Limited in Wumingu/Kishushe, received Sh5.81 million for milk aggregation and Artificial Insemination (AI) services.

The cooperative said the interventions would address challenges that have affected operations and contributed to low returns for dairy farmers.

Kenya and Armenia deepen bilateral cooperation

BY MICHAEL OMONDI (KNA)

The State Department of Foreign Affairs today held bilateral consultations with the Head of the Department of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, H.E. Amb. Davit Knyazyan, reaffirming the strong and growing partnership between Kenya and Armenia.

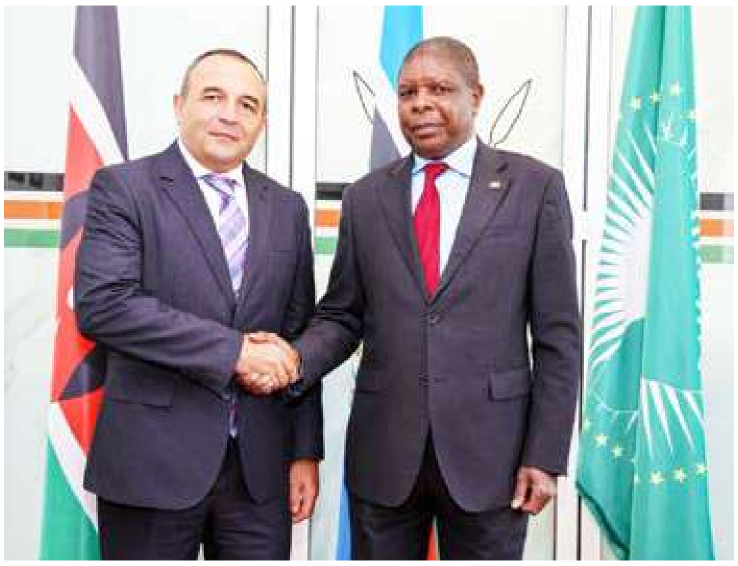
The meeting at the Ministry Headquarters in Nairobi, led by Director General, Political and Diplomatic Affairs, Amb. Josphat Maikara, reviewed progress made since the inaugural Kenya-Armenia Political Consultations held in Yerevan in February 2026, which culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding establishing a formal mechanism for political consultations between the two countries. Both sides welcomed the steady implementation of agreed outcomes aimed at expanding cooperation across priority sectors.

Discussions focused on strengthening collaboration in trade and investment, agriculture, energy, Information and Communication Technology, higher education, health, tourism, medical research, diaspora affairs and capacity building.

Importantly, Kenya acknowledged Armenia's continued support and in particular professional training programmes offered by the Diplomatic School of Armenia where Kenyan diplomats participated, hence enhancing Kenya's diplomatic capacity in multilateral affairs, peace-building and regional security.

Further, both delegations exchanged views on regional and international developments and reaffirmed their commitment to working together in international organizations, including the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement, in advancing peace, sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and the rules-based multilateral system.

A key area of discussion was the upcoming 17th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP17), which Armenia will host in Yerevan from 19 - 30 October 2026 under the theme 'Taking Action for Nature'. The meeting underscored the importance of COP17 in accelerating implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, mobilizing biodiversity finance, advancing ecosystem restoration and strengthening international cooperation to address biodiversity loss.



Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Director General, Political and Diplomatic Affairs, Amb. Josphat Maikara (right) shares a handshake with the Head of the Department of Multilateral Policy and Development Cooperation Amb. Davit Knyazyan at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia.

To this regard, Kenya welcomed the opportunity to participate in the Leaders' Summit on Biodiversity scheduled for 16 October 2026, where H.E. President William Samoei Ruto is expected to join other world leaders in advancing global commitments on biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

Notably, the Kenyan side sought Armenia's support for the candidature of Judge Phoebe Okowa for election to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for the 2027-2036 term, with elections scheduled during the 81st Session of the United Nations General Assembly and the United Nations Security Council in November 2026.

In addition, Kenya requested Armenia's support for the candidature of Hon. Lady Justice Njoki Ndungu for election as a Judge of the International Criminal Court (ICC) for the 2027-2036 term, whose election is scheduled to be held in New York, USA in December 2026.

Government urges media to drive sports development

BY ANITA OMWENGA (MYGOV)

The Principal Secretary, State Department for Sports Elijah Mwangi has called on sports journalists to play a more central role in the growth of Kenyan sport, describing the media as a critical partner in the sports ecosystem.

The PS said the Government is seeking to reposition sports not merely as recreation and entertainment, but as a strategic sector for talent development, employment, national pride, social development and economic growth.

Mwangi said journalists play a vital role in reshaping the perception of sports as an important economic and social sector.

He urged journalists to tell the human stories behind sports, including those of young athletes in our communities and in the villages, coaches working with limited resources, and federations developing talent quietly.

"Behind every medal is a story of sacrifice. Behind every record is years of training. Because sometimes one powerful story can achieve what many policy documents cannot and it can move the nation to act," said the PS in his speech read on his behalf by Director of Sports Douglas Ratemo during the Sports Journalists Association of Kenya (SJAK)'s Annual General Meeting (AGM) on August 14, held in Nairobi.

He divulged that the Ministry seeks a stronger partnership with the sports media based on mutual respect, professional independence, openness and a shared commitment to Kenyan sports.

"Kenya has enormous sporting potential. We have athletes who can compete with the best in the world. But talent alone is not enough. We need effective governance, proper investment, quality coaching, strong federations, appropriate facilities, athlete welfare, sports science and a vibrant and responsible sports media that tells the Kenyan sporting story to the world," he said.

The PS conveyed appreciation for the role sports journalists continue to play in the development and promotion of sport in Kenya, noting that the AGM comes at a time when the Government is seeking to reposition sport beyond recreation and entertainment.

The PS divulged that athletes create moments, but it is the media that gives those moments a voice and a lasting memory noting that the media connects that content to millions of people across the country and around the world.

"Imagine the Olympic Games without journalists, cameras, broadcasters, commentators, newspapers, radio, television and digital platforms. The athletes would still compete. The races would still be run. Goals would still be scored. Medals would still be won. But how many people would know about those achievements?" he said

SJAK President James Waindi, who presided over the AGM said the association will continue working closely with the Government and other stakeholders to strengthen sports journalism, enhance professionalism, training and welfare for sports journalists.

Waindi said the partnership with the Government remains critical in creating an enabling environment where sports journalists can access professional training, build their skills and operate under better working conditions.of sports reporting.

On her part, ADAK Ag. Chief Executive Officer Peninah Wahome said the media plays an important role as a watchdog for clean sport by investigating suspicious activities and reporting doping concerns.

"Journalists can ask difficult questions about athletes, coaches, training camps and performance changes.Through responsible reporting, the media can help protect athletes and promote integrity in athletics" Wahome said in a speech read on her behalf by acting Director of Standards & Compliance Dr. Martin Yauma.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE PHYSICAL AND LAND USE PLANNING ACT (No. 13 of 2019)

NOTICE OF COMPLETION OF PART DEVELOPMENT PLAN

PDP Ref. No. RVP/208/2026/01	**EXISTING SITES FOR THE KENYA POWER AND LIGHTING COMPANY PLC**

NOTICE is hereby given that preparation of the above mentioned Part Development Plan was on the 7th August 2026 completed. The Part Development Plan relates to land situated within Baragoi Town, Samburu County.

Copies of the Part Development Plan as prepared have been deposited for public inspection free of charge at the office of the County Physical Planning, Samburu County Headquarters Building, Basement Floor, Room No. 23. The copies so deposited are available for inspection free of charge by all persons interested at the above mentioned address between the hours of 8.00 am to 5.00pm on working days.

Any interested person(s) who wishes to make any representation in connection with or objection to the above Part Development Plan may send such representations or objections in writing to be received by the County Executive Committee Member in Charge of Physical and Land Use Planning P.O. Box 3-20600 Maralal within sixty (60) days from the date of publication of this notice and any such representation or objection shall state the grounds on which it is made.

Dated 18th Day of August 2026

David E. Loosenge
CECM Lands, Physical Planning, Housing & Urban Development
SAMBURU COUNTY

ILANI KWA UMMA

Nambari ya Kumbukumbu RVP/208/2026/01	**SEHEMU ILIYOKO YA THE KENYA POWER AND LIGHTING COMPANY PLC**

Ilani inatolewa kuhusu kukamilika kwa ramani ya matumizi sehemu ya Ardhi iliyotajwa hapa juu, tarehe 7-8-2026.

Ramani hii inahusisha Ardhi iliyoko katika eneo la Baragoi, Kaunti ya Samburu.

Nakala za mpango huo wa ustawishaji kama ilivyotayarishwa imewasilishwa kwa ukaguzi wa umma bila malipo katika ofisi za Afisa Mkuu wa Ustawishaji wa Ardhi kati ya Jumatatu hadi Ijumaa baina ya saa mbili asubuhi na saa kumi na moja jioni.

Yeyoye aliye na nia ya kutoa uwakilisishi au pingamizi kuhusu mpango huu wa Ustawishaji Ardhi anaombwa kutuma maoni yake kwa maandishi na kuyawasilisha kwa afisi ya Waziri Wa Kaunti anayesimamia Idara ya Ustawishaji wa Ardhi na Maendeleo ya Mji S.L.P 3-20600 Maralal, kabla ya siku sitini (60) kuisha, kuanzia tarehe ya uchapishaji wa ilani hii.

Imetolewa: Agosti 18, 2026

David E. Loosenge
Waziri wa Kaunti – Ardhi, Mipango, Nyumba na Maendeleo Mijini
KAUNTI YA SAMBURU

Government verifying PWDs for tax exemption

BY MERCY OSONGO KNA)

A multi-agency team has begun verifying the eligibility of persons with disabilities for tax exemption.

Speaking during the two-day exercise at the Kisii Teaching and Referral Hospital National Council for Persons with Disabilities Chief Executive Officer Dr. Michael Munene said the nationwide exercise is aimed at providing tax relief for PWDs in formal and informal employment as stipulated under the Act for Persons with Disabilities.

"This is an exercise to verify persons with disabilities who have applied for tax exemption, that is, those in formal or informal employment as well as those who are involved in income generating activities which allow for relief on matters tax," Munene explained.

The CEO noted the month-long activity had commenced in Kisii County and the team had vetted more than 400 persons.

He lauded the verification team for the successful collaboration and urged persons with disabilities to take advantage of the opportunity to apply for tax exemption in the designated 12 counties where the exercise will be conducted.

The CEO added that NCPWD is in the final stages of operationalizing the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2025 which will advance human rights as well as restructure enforcement through the NCPWD.

"There are three major regulations that we have developed, the registration of persons and organizations for PWDs, adjustment orders and the tax exemption regulation which actually has a big impact on the ongoing exercise," noted Dr. Munene.

He said that NCPWD was in further discussions with the Kenya Revenue Authority regarding the tax exemption for PWDs and their caregivers before the document can be rolled out for public participation.

"We are very grateful that Kisii is one of the centers that is conducting the tax exemption exercise, being that it is surrounded by a number of counties, and the exercise has been seamless despite one or two challenges at the beginning," James Esekon, NCPWD officer in charge of Kisii County, said .

His counterpart, Gabriella Ogom noted the verification exercise involved assessing the registration of persons with disability, proof of income and whether they are tax compliant.

She said the Ministry of Health was in charge of assessing the disability status while KRA reviewed tax compliance for persons with disabilities.

Ogom, who is in charge of tax exemption and registration in Kisii, said that PWDs who fail to meet the eligibility criteria during the exercise will be allowed to appeal the decision of the assessment team to ensure their rights are safeguarded.

Mentorship for 122,000 NYOTA programme beneficiaries begins

Principal Secretary for the State Department for MSMEs Development Susan Mang'eni (second from left) addressing the press. File photo.

BY NANCY OMONDI (KNA)

More than 122,000 young entrepreneurs who received start-up capital under the National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA) Project will benefit from a mentorship programme aimed at strengthening their businesses and improving their chances of sustainable growth.

The mentorship programme has enrolled more than 4,879 mentors engaged across the country to support the beneficiaries.

Principal Secretary for the State Department for MSMEs Development Susan Mang'eni said each beneficiary will be assigned a mentor with experience in business practice, with each mentor handling a maximum of 20 mentees.

The mentorship will include business site visits, peer-to-peer mentorship, business case experiences, coaching, counselling and market linkages.

The programme is part of the government's wider efforts to promote youth self-employment through skills development and access to start-up capital.

The NYOTA Project, which was rolled out in March 2025, uses a digital technology platform to facilitate access to opportunities for young people across the country.

On July 10, 2026, the government disbursed start-up capital to more than 122,000 business support beneficiaries, providing them with resources to establish and expand their enterprises.

The project draws beneficiaries from all 1,450 wards in Kenya, targeting young people at the bottom of the economic pyramid and seeking to improve their access to economic opportunities.

The government is also developing innovative and blended financing products to enable NYOTA business support beneficiaries to access additional financing through government catalytic funds.

The initiative follows President William Ruto's directive to expand access to financing for NYOTA beneficiaries issued during the start-up capital disbursement last month.

The State Department is further working with county governments to develop a framework for implementing business license fees waivers for NYOTA beneficiaries, with the aim of improving their access to markets and viable trading spaces.

Another component of the programme, the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) training, is expected to be rolled out next month.

The training targets more than 600,000 young entrepreneurs and is intended to equip them with knowledge and skills to increase their uptake of government procurement opportunities.

Meanwhile, the On-the-Job Experience (OJE) component of NYOTA is already being implemented in 18 counties, where beneficiaries are undergoing Socio-Emotional Skills Development (SESD) training.

The counties are Isiolo, Marsabit, Laikipia, Samburu, Turkana, Baringo, Nandi, West Pokot, Uasin Gishu, Elgeyo Marakwet, Trans Nzoia, Lamu, Mombasa, Kilifi, Garissa, Mandera, Wajir and Tana River.

Upon completion of the SESD training, beneficiaries will proceed to a five-month apprenticeship programme under experienced master craftsmen and employers.

Climate-smart agriculture solving persistent crop failure

BY MAKOKHA KHAOYA AND CHARLES AGIMBA (KNA)

The drought spell being witnessed in various parts of the country is a wake-up call for Kenyan farmers to start embracing Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA).

A shift to CSA will not only address food security and climate change but also ensure farmers cushion themselves from crop losses and greenhouse gas emission.

In the recently concluded Rongo Expo show organized by Migori County and partners, a shift to the form of agriculture was not only advocated but also demonstrated by every exhibitor.

With more than 100 exhibitor stands at the Rongo Stadium, modern farming technologies, climate-smart innovations, and value-chain solutions were practically showcased to residents and farmers.

The second-ever annual agricultural exhibition to be held at Rongo Sub-County lived to this year's theme of 'Transforming agriculture through innovation, climate-smart technology and sustainable value chains for enhanced food security and prosperity,'.

The theme aligned with the County's blueprint of making Migori food secure.

According to the Migori County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Agriculture, Lucas Mosenda, the growing participation of farmers and exhibitors in this year's Rongo expo demonstrates the importance of partnerships and knowledge-sharing in transforming climate-smart agriculture into a reality.

Mosenda said the county had recruited 65 agricultural extension officers over the past three and a half years, while more than 200 agri-entrepreneurs are working alongside the extension team to support Migori farmers through providing relevant and up-to-date policy frameworks and tools, designing climate change adaptation plans and supporting access to climate finance.

The official added that the recruitment of extension officers aims to promote and realize the transformative agenda of making climate-smart agriculture a reality for Migori farmers.

An Agronomist from Kuria West Sub-County, Raphael Mwita, explained that the CSA model, as a sustainability medium that increases productivity, enhances resilience, and climate change mitigation, with the intention of contributing positively to food security and development goals of a nation.

"In 2026, Migori County, just like the majority of other regions in Kenya, experienced unreliable and unpredictable rainfall. The surest way to cure unreliable and unpredictable rainfall patterns is to embrace irrigation systems that allow for continuous crop production all seasons round," he explained.

"The only better way for climate-smart agriculture is to encourage irrigation; more so drip irrigation for short-season crops like beans, vegetables and other horticultural crops," he further elaborated.

Principal Secretary (PS) State Department for Public Investments and Assets Management Cyrell Wagunda representing the Head of Public Service Felix Koskei, gives keynote address during the 5th heads of procurement and supply chain management conference

Procurement professionals challenged to embrace integrity, digital transformation

BY SADIK HASSAN (KNA)

Public procurement professionals have been challenged to uphold integrity and harness emerging technologies to ensure every shilling spent delivers value to Kenyans.

Head of Public Service Felix Koskei said procurement should move beyond purchasing goods and services to become a strategic tool for economic growth, job creation, local manufacturing and enterprise development.

In a speech read by Public Investments and Asset Management Principal Secretary Cyrell Wagunda during the Fifth Heads of Procurement and Supply Chain Management Conference in Mombasa, Koskei said procurement professionals are custodians of billions of shillings in public resources and must therefore operate with the highest standards of ethics, transparency and accountability.

"Integrity must remain non-negotiable for public sector Heads of Procurement. You are custodians of billions of shillings of public resources," Koskei said.

He warned that professional competence without integrity could undermine national development, urging procurement officers to ensure every tender can withstand scrutiny by auditors, oversight institutions and the public.

Koskei said the Government's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) requires procurement to stimulate local manufacturing, create decent jobs, promote innovation and expand market opportunities for Kenyan businesses.

"Procurement must therefore become a bridge connecting public spending and private-sector prosperity," he said.

He also urged procurement professionals to embrace Artificial Intelligence (AI), data analytics, predictive procurement and green procurement as technology reshapes public purchasing globally.

Koskei commended the Kenya Institute of Supplies Management (KISM) for supporting the rollout of the Electronic Government Procurement System (e-GP), saying the platform would enhance transparency, competition and accountability while reducing procurement costs and providing real-time information on public expenditure.

Wagunda said digital transformation was critical to strengthening public financial management, noting that e-GP would enable institutions to make better decisions using reliable data.

He urged accounting officers, heads of procurement and public institutions to fully embrace the system, saying the future of procurement is digital, data-driven and integrated.

KISM National Chairperson Jeniffer Cirindi called on procurement professionals to leverage technology to improve efficiency and accountability while positioning the profession to benefit from regional trade opportunities under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Cirindi said KISM had grown its membership to more than 28,600 professionals and was targeting 40,000 members by 2029. The institute has also secured World Bank financing to support institutional transformation over the next three years.

NDMA gives Sh130.5m to address water crises and restore peace in Northern Kenya

A participant taking part in the National Drought Management Authority Road Race

The race aimed to raise funds for water projects and boost peace in four counties of Isiolo, Samburu, Meru and Laikipia. Hundreds of participants and partners took part in the exercise raising about Sh.130.5 million.

BY MUTURI MWANGI (KNA)

The National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) raised Sh130.5 million to address water crises and restore peace in four counties of Northern Kenya.

Governor of Samburu County Jonathan Lati Lelelit speaking during the inaugural NDMA road race at Archers post on Saturday said that water crises have been a major setback in restoring peace in the region.

"Some of the biggest conflicts we have between our pastoralists communities are water based conflicts and the moment you solve that issue, we will have gone a long way in ensuring our people are peaceful,"said Governor Lelelit.

NDMA Chief Executive Officer Lt. Col. (Rtd.) Hared Adan said the road race was deliberately designed to involve Morans from the four counties in peace-building through sporting activities while raising funds for drought resilience projects.

"We will continue bringing communities together. There can be no development without peace. I call on these communities to think carefully before invading others," Adan said. He recalled an earlier NDMA peace caravan along the Garissa-Isiolo-Meru borders aimed at reducing drought-related tensions.

Rtd. Col Adan said that the community prioritized drought resilience projects of Lmarmaroi Rock Catchment Project in Samburu, the Naitutum Water Pipeline Extension Project in Isiolo, the Koija Earth Dam Rehabilitation and Livelihood Project in Laikipia, and the Nauchi Water Project Solarisation and Rehabilitation in Meru would commence immediately.

They are expected to benefit more than 5,000 households and over 50,000 livestock.

NDMA Board Chairman Shallow Yahya emphasized that drought resilience should be viewed as an investment rather than pure humanitarian aid.

"Investing in drought resilience is not charity. It is an investment in productive communities, stable markets, secure livelihoods and sustainable development," he said.

The chairman noted that drought destroys productive assets, disrupts markets and intensifies competition over scarce resources such as water and pasture. Climate change, he added, hits ASAL communities hardest because their livelihoods depend heavily on climate-sensitive resources.

Rtd. Col. Adan lauded the partners noting that the Road Race was not just a sporting event, but as a platform to convert public awareness and partnership into tangible investments that strengthen water security, livelihoods, peace and resilience.

The Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes Geoffrey Ruku. PHOTO: COURTESY

HR system to streamline salary payments

The HRIS to avert manipulation of the payrolls and allowances to ghost workers in the various government agencies and commissions.

BY PATRICK NYAKUNDI (KNA)

The Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes, Geoffrey Ruku, has directed chief executive officers (CEOs) of government agencies and independent commissions to onboard civil servants onto the Human Resource Information System (HRIS) for salary payments.

Speaking in Wote, Ruku explained that the government intends to have a single payroll through the HRIS to avert manipulation of the payrolls and allowances to ghost workers in the various government agencies and commissions.

Further, the CS reminded CEOs that they risked disciplinary measures if they failed to implement the Cabinet directive.

“All CEOs of the different government agencies and independent commissions in the republic of Kenya must onboard HRIS. We will take administrative actions against the CEOs who will not facilitate and take their role seriously,” Ruku warned.

“Any Cabinet directive must be taken seriously, respected and implemented with precision. That is why President William Ruto has emphasized on prudent use of taxpayers money,” he added.

On projects, the CS pointed out that President Ruto has ensured that development was taken to all parts of the country without discrimination, saying construction of affordable housing and markets is ongoing without considering regional party affiliations.

“The government has initiated various projects like affordable housing and markets to all parts of the country without taking into account the party affiliations people voted for. The youths have been employed and are now fending for their families,” he said.

During the meeting, Ruku disclosed that the government has secured Sh10 billion to complete the first phase of Thwake Multipurpose Dam that will provide water for both domestic use and irrigation in Makueni, Machakos and Kitui counties respectively.

He said the contractor will return to the site by October this year and that the dam will be completed before the end of next year.

The CS noted that the perennial shortage of water will be a thing of the past. “The water problem will be eradicated. I know the land in Makueni, Machakos and Kitui is fertile, farmers will have water to do irrigation and increase food security,” he said.

Kisumu partners with Africa Smart Cities Alliance to expand cancer screening

The programme is intended to strengthen early detection, diagnosis, treatment and long-term management of sickle cell disease in the region

BY MABEL KEYA – SHIKUKU AND DOROTHY PAMELA (KNA)

The County Government of Kisumu has designated Victoria Sub-County Hospital as a regional hub for specialized diagnostic services, with an initial focus on cancer and sickle cell disease screening, Governor Peter Anyang` Nyong`o has announced.

According to Nyong`o the facility will host two new programs under the initiative. They include; a Cancer Screening and Diagnostic Laboratory, developed in partnership with the Africa Smart Cities Alliance (ASCA) to offer advanced cancer screening and diagnostic services. It is set to be officially launched this month during the Africa Smart Cities summit.

In a statement, the Governor said a second initiative, the Sickle Cell Screening and Diagnostic Programme, will be established at the hospital in collaboration with Yunigen and its partners. The programme is intended to strengthen early detection, diagnosis, treatment and long-term management of sickle cell disease in the region.

Yunigen Pharmaceuticals is a US-based pharmaceutical company focused on developing and manufacturing medicines, with a particular focus on sickle cell disease. The company has developed Scedamin, a pediatric formulation of hydroxyurea intended to improve access to treatment for children living with sickle cell disease.

In May 2025, YUNIGEN entered into a partnership with the Kisumu County Government to strengthen sickle cell disease prevention, screening, diagnosis and treatment. The agreement included plans to expand routine newborn screening in public health facilities, build the capacity of healthcare workers, improve access to affordable pediatric hydroxyurea and establish a digital registry to support patient monitoring.

The partnership also included plans for Yunigen to establish pharmaceutical packaging and manufacturing operations in Kisumu, positioning the city as its African hub.

According to the Ministry of Health, sickle cell disease (SCD) affects an estimated 14,000 newborns annually in Kenya. The overall national prevalence of SCD is approximately 0.9 per cent, but the trait (SCT) reaches 10 per cent to 40 per cent in highly malaria-endemic areas like the coast, Western and Nyanza regions. Without early screening, 50- to 90 per cent of these children do not survive past age five years.

Data shows roughly 21 per cent of children in Kisumu carry the sickle cell trait, and approximately 4.5 per cent are born with the disease. Experts say it is highly prevalent in the county because the trait provides natural protection against severe malaria which is endemic in the region.

This makes the Lake Region, particularly Kisumu, to have the highest prevalence of Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) in Kenya. Because of this, some County health facilities such as Jaramogi Odinga Oginga Training and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH) and Pap Onditi in Nyakach) have rolled out newborn screening and ultra-modern testing technologies to detect the disease early.

Sickle cell disease each year, concentrated in seventeen high-burden counties, and the disease remains a leading driver of child and adult illness and death without appropriate intervention, an estimated 50 to 90 percent of affected children die before their fifth birthday.

Hospital data reviewed at JOOTRH indicates that a typical sickle cell patient experiences about five crises a year, each requiring five to ten days of hospitalization, revealing the strain the disease places on patients, families and the health system.

The establishment of the cancer screening and diagnostic laboratory also comes amid a growing cancer burden in Kisumu County. Data cited by Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital shows that Kisumu recorded 4,394 cancer cases between 2011 and 2025, with 720 new cases reported in 2024 alone, up from 292 cases in 2018.

Cervical cancer accounted for the highest number of cases at 1,038, followed by esophageal cancer with 596 cases and breast cancer with 524. The data further indicates that between 75 and 80 per cent of patients are diagnosed at advanced Stage III or IV, highlighting the need to strengthen screening and early diagnosis services.

The county also outlined plans to expand specialized diagnostic capacity at the hospital more broadly, including molecular diagnostics and advanced laboratory services, alongside coordination of cancer screening programs across Kisumu County and the wider Lake Region.

Officials described the investment as part of a shift in Governor Anyang’ Nyong’o’s administration’s health strategy,

The designation adds a second front in Kisumu’s response to sickle cell disease, running alongside Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital’s (JOOTRH) existing apheresis-based treatment program using its Spectra Optia machine.

New wildlife bill to open up conservation opportunities for private landowners

BY ANTONY MWANGI (KNA)

The proposed Wildlife Bill will allow private landowners to legally establish wildlife conservancies and engage in wildlife-based enterprises, opening up new opportunities for communities to participate in Kenya’s growing wildlife economy.

Speaking during World Elephant Day celebrations at Gatundia Day Secondary School in Laikipia County, Conservation Secretary Dr. John Chumo, who represented the Cabinet Secretary for Tourism and Wildlife, said the proposed legislation is part of Government efforts to strengthen wildlife conservation while creating economic opportunities for communities living alongside wildlife.

Chumo said the legislation would encourage more landowners to embrace conservation by enabling them to derive economic benefits from wildlife on their land.

The celebrations were held under the theme, “Be More Like Elephants: Advancing Human-Elephant Coexistence through Community Partnerships, Conservation and Sustainable Livelihoods,” brought together government officials, conservation partners and local communities to reaffirm their commitment to wildlife protection and addressing human-wildlife conflict.

Chumo also raised concern over the increasing hunting of small wildlife species, including dik-diks and hares, for bushmeat, warning that the practice threatens biodiversity and undermines conservation efforts.

He urged communities to protect all wildlife species, noting that conserving smaller animals is equally important as protecting elephants and other iconic species.

He added, the government remains committed to strengthening conservation through collaboration with communities, county governments and conservation partners, noting that successful wildlife conservation must balance environmental protection with the livelihoods of people living near wildlife habitats.

Senior Assistant Director at the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Aden Kala, said the agency had relocated 12 problematic elephants from the area to minimise crop destruction and damage to property.

Kala appealed to communities to work closely with KWS officers by promptly reporting wildlife incidents and following the legal compensation process for losses caused by wildlife.

He cautioned against fraudulent compensation claims, saying they delay the processing of genuine cases and undermine the integrity of the compensation programme.

Gov't, private sector partner to enhance efficiency at Mombasa Port

Enhanced collaboration, digital transformation and coordinated reforms will facilitate legitimate trade and safeguard government revenue.

BY HUSSEIN ABDULLAHI (KNA)

Stakeholders have reaffirmed a commitment to transforming the Port of Mombasa into a globally competitive trade hub.

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) and Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), alongside entities doing business through the port, said enhanced collaboration, digital transformation and coordinated reforms will facilitate legitimate trade and safeguard government revenue.

The Port of Mombasa is the premier maritime gateway to East and Central Africa, serving as a critical trade lifeline connecting more than 80 global ports to a vast landlocked African hinterland.

It links international shipping lines to millions of people and serves as the starting point of the Northern Corridor which connects Kenya's coast to Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and South Sudan.

Speaking during a meeting at the port, KRA Commissioner General Adan Mohammed said sustained collaboration between government agencies and the private sector is critical to positioning Mombasa as a world-class logistics hub and a catalyst for Kenya's economic growth.

"The success of our port depends on our ability to work together. Our objective is to create a seamless, predictable and efficient cargo clearance environment that supports business growth while protecting the country's revenue," Mohammed said.

He said continued engagement is helping to remove operational bottlenecks, embrace technology and strengthen compliance to create a level playing field for traders.

The meeting, jointly convened by KRA and KPA, brought together senior officials from the two institutions, regulatory agencies, the County Government of Mombasa, Container Freight Station (CFS) operators, shipping agents and private sector representatives.

The stakeholders reviewed ongoing reforms and agreed on measures to improve cargo movement, reduce delays and strengthen the efficiency of the port.

The discussions highlighted its (Port of Mombasa) strategic importance. The port handles approximately 2.1 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), which makes it a principal maritime gateway for the region.

KRA, however, noted that about 40 per cent of the containers handled at the port are usually empty, while the Authority collects customs revenue from only about 25 per cent of the total containers.

The figures, officials said, underscore the need to optimise cargo flow, improve compliance and accelerate the clearance of legitimate imports while ensuring efficient utilisation of port infrastructure.

Stakeholders reviewed the progress in the implementation of the Advanced Cargo Declaration (ACD) system which is designed to facilitate pre-arrival processing.

The system allows cargo documentation to be submitted and verified before goods are loaded at the port of export.

Mohammed said that since the ACD platform was rolled out on August 3, 2026, it had received more than 1,000 applications, demonstrating growing uptake by traders and shipping stakeholders ahead of full implementation.

"This will enable importers to commence customs processing earlier and significantly reduce cargo dwell time upon arrival at the Port of Mombasa," he said.

The meeting also reviewed technological enhancements aimed at eliminating manual processes across the cargo clearance chain.

Uwezo Fund gives 21 Emgwen groups Sh2.8m for entrepreneurship

BY SAMMY MWIBANDA (KNA)

Uwezo Fund beneficiary group displays a cheque issued in Emgwen Constituency, Nandi County.

Some 21 community groups in Emgwen Constituency have received Sh2.8 million from the Uwezo Fund to support entrepreneurship and strengthen their income-generating activities.

The groups, drawn from the constituency's four wards, received the cheques on Wednesday after completing a three-day training programme focused on entrepreneurship, financial management, group leadership, accountability and sustainable investment.

The training was organised by the Constituency Uwezo Fund Management Committee (CUFMC) in collaboration with the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Authority (MSEA) and the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF).

Fourteen of the beneficiary groups were accessing the interest-free loans for the first time, receiving amounts ranging from Sh50,000 to Sh100,000. Seven others were repeat beneficiaries who had previously received financial support and were returning to the Fund after demonstrating progress in their enterprises.

Emgwen MP Josses Lelmengit said the loans, which are repayable within 12 to 24 months, were intended to help residents establish sustainable sources of income rather than depend entirely on formal employment.

Lelmengit urged the beneficiaries to use the funds prudently and invest in viable ventures capable of generating regular income.

He said the training was an important component of the programme because it equipped beneficiaries with practical skills to make informed decisions on how to utilise the funds and manage their enterprises.

"The money should be used for the purpose for which it was given and invested in projects that can generate income for the members," he said.

The MP advised repeat beneficiaries to use the additional funding to expand their existing businesses and increase their earnings, while first-time beneficiaries should establish strong foundations for their enterprises and avoid diverting the funds to non-productive activities.

He said organised community groups were an important avenue for improving livelihoods, particularly among young people, women and persons with disabilities seeking opportunities to participate in economic activities.

Lelmengit encouraged the groups to maintain proper financial records, operate transparently and work collectively to ensure their enterprises remain sustainable.

He also urged beneficiaries to regularly evaluate their businesses and identify areas requiring improvement so that the financial support could translate into tangible benefits for members.

The three-day training equipped the groups with knowledge on entrepreneurship, financial management, accountability and group leadership.

The sessions were designed to help beneficiaries understand how to plan their businesses, manage finances, make sound investment decisions and work together towards achieving their objectives.

Lelmengit said the collaboration between the CUFMC, MSEA and YEDF was intended to strengthen both the financial and technical support available to community groups.

He said access to affordable financing alone was not sufficient to guarantee successful enterprises, noting that beneficiaries also required appropriate skills and knowledge to manage their investments.

The groups are expected to channel the funds into income-generating activities contained in their approved project proposals.

The ultimate goal, Lelmengit said, was to strengthen the economic capacity of beneficiaries, improve household incomes and enable members to become more financially independent.

He cautioned beneficiaries against viewing the support as a financial handout, saying the programme was designed to help residents establish enterprises that could grow, create employment and contribute to the local economy.

Scrapping ID fees sparks surge in Huduma Centre applications

BY JOAN KINUTHIA AND VINCENT KIPTOO (KNA)

Huduma Centre Mombasa has recorded a 250 per cent increase in the number of Kenyans applying for and replacing their national identification cards since President William Ruto's directive scrapping ID fees took effect.

"Since the President made this announcement and it was debated, the number of ID applicants has really increased. I would say close to 250 per cent of the initial number we used to have. The citizens are really appreciating what the President did by removing the ID registration fee," Harison Yogo, the Centre Manager, said.

To handle the rising demand, Yogo said the centre has extended its working hours to accommodate working residents.

"We open our doors from 7.00 am to 7.00 pm. Those who are employed and report to work at 8 am can come and receive services before then, and those who close their offices at 5 pm have an opportunity between 5.00 pm and 7.00 pm to come for ID and registration services," he said.

Yogo said the centre runs an outreach programme known as Huduma Mashinani, which takes registration services closer to residents in far-flung and previously unregistered areas, serving between 1,500 and 2,000 citizens per outreach which sometimes extends into weekends.

"We partner with institutions, organisations, well-wishers, county governments, the county commissioner, local chiefs and area MCAs and MPs to take these services closer to Wanaichi," Yogo said.

He said the centre has also set up a police abstract desk on site to ease the process for residents replacing lost identification documents.

"We have a police abstract desk in Huduma Centre Mombasa. When you have lost your ID, you walk in, you are given a police abstract, and you don't have to look for it at a police station outside. This is a one-stop shop where you get all your services," he said, adding that IDs are currently processed and ready for collection within two weeks.

On voter registration, Yogo said the centre has partnered with the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), which operates a desk inside the centre and another placed strategically outside, registering an average of 40 new voters daily.

"Every citizen who walks in and collects their ID, we inform them that we also have an IEBC desk adjacent, so before they walk out of Huduma Centre Mombasa, they can register as a voter. We have about 40 citizens registering with IEBC daily," he said.

Lactation centres in Murang'a hospitals to support mothers

1. **Various stakeholders led by Deputy Director of Medical health from the Ministry of Health Norbert Abuya at the newly established lactation centre at Kigmo Level-4 hospital.**

2. **Newly established lactation centre at Kigumo Level-4 hospital.** Photos by Bernard Munyao

BY BERNARD MUNYAO AND ANN KENDI (KNA)

The Murang'a County Department of Health has stepped up efforts to support breastfeeding mothers, particularly working ladies, through the establishment of lactation centres at Kirwara and Kigumo Level - 4 health facilities.

The centres, established in partnership with development organizations, provide mothers with a safe and convenient environment to breastfeed or express and store breast milk while attending to their daily responsibilities.

County Coordinator of Nutrition Nancy Mwangi said the initiative was part of broader interventions aimed at creating a supportive environment for breastfeeding and improving maternal and child nutrition across the county.

"The lactation centres are intended to support mothers, especially those who have resumed work, to continue breastfeeding their children without interruption," Mwangi noted as the country marks breastfeeding week.

The county administration, she added, is working to establish lactation centres in other more hospitals asking public institutions and companies to consider setting up lactation centres in workplaces.

The Nutritionist further noted that the county was implementing the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI) and the Baby-Friendly Community Initiative (BFCI) to strengthen breastfeeding support both within health facilities and at household level.

According to Mwangi, the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative has been implemented in 15 public and private health facilities, with 50 healthcare workers trained on BFHI protocols.

She said self-assessments had also been conducted in all participating facilities to ensure that mothers receive quality breastfeeding counselling and support.

At community level, the county has trained 50 Trainers of Trainers and 50 healthcare workers on community-based Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition (MIYCN) support.

The county has also built the capacity of 1,932 Community Health Promoters to provide breastfeeding advice and support to mothers at household level.

Mwangi said the county had established 720 Mother-to-Mother Support Groups and one Father-to-Father Support Group across 204 functional Community Health Units (CHUs).

"These support groups provide an important platform where mothers can share experiences, receive practical guidance and encourage one another to sustain breastfeeding," she said.

The county has simultaneously intensified enforcement of the Breast Milk Substitutes (Regulation and Control) Act, 2012, through regular monitoring to safeguard breastfeeding practices and curb inappropriate promotion and marketing of breast milk substitutes.

Mwangi said the county had also developed a Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition in Emergencies (MIYCN-E) Contingency Plan to ensure mothers and infants continue receiving appropriate nutrition support during emergencies.

She noted that the county had operationalized the Murang'a County Food and Nutrition Multi-sectoral Policy to promote coordinated action among different sectors involved in improving nutrition.

The administration has also embraced digitalization of maternal and child health services, including electronic antenatal and postnatal care records, immunization tracking and child growth monitoring.

Mwangi said the interventions had contributed to improved breastfeeding and child nutrition indicators in the county.

She said 74 per cent of mothers in Murang'a initiate breastfeeding within the recommended period after birth, compared with the national average of 62 per cent.

Exclusive breastfeeding among children aged zero to five months stands at 68 per cent in the county, above the national average of 60 per cent, she added.

Acting Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA) Secretary Joseph Njau (right) and Fresh Produce Consortium of Kenya Okisegere Ojepat (left) during the signing of memorandum of understanding between the TVETA and Fresh Produce Consortium of Kenya at a Nairobi hotel.

TVET-industry partnerships key to bridging skills gap, boosting employment

BY ARON KINYAMASYO AND EMMANUEL MWENDWA(KNA)

The Government has called for stronger collaboration between Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions and industry to ensure graduates acquire practical, job-ready skills that align with labour market needs and support economic transformation.

Acting Secretary of the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA), Joseph Njau, said Kenya is undergoing a major shift in its TVET system from certification-based training to a competence-driven model focused on productivity, innovation and employability.

Njau, who represented Principal Secretary for TVET Dr Esther Muoria, said the transformation is especially important in agriculture, where modern production, technology adoption, quality standards and market access increasingly depend on industry-relevant skills.

Speaking during a workshop in Nairobi attended by more than 150 stakeholders from the agricultural and fresh produce sectors, Njau said industry must play a central role in defining the skills required in the economy.

"Industry should help shape the skills that industry needs," he said, urging stronger linkages between training institutions and employers, expanded workplace exposure for students, and greater participation of industry experts in curriculum delivery.

He said the Government is promoting competency-based education and training, work-based learning, responsive curricula, and innovation-driven training to ensure graduates are not only job seekers but also job creators.

Njau added that TVET institutions should evolve into centres of production, innovation, technology transfer and enterprise development. This, he said, would enable young people to commercialize ideas, establish businesses and contribute directly to job creation.

He noted that the fresh produce sector presents significant opportunities across production, post-harvest handling, processing, logistics, digital agriculture, quality assurance, export compliance and market access. However, he said these opportunities require a workforce equipped with practical skills and an entrepreneurial mindset.

Njau said a new partnership between the State Department for TVET and the Fresh Produce Consortium of Kenya (FPC Kenya) will strengthen industry exposure, research, innovation and technology transfer, while also supporting the commercialization of products developed in TVET institutions.

He said the collaboration will also enhance trainer capacity, improve institutional infrastructure and encourage TVET institutions to establish production and commercialization units to make training more relevant to industry needs.

Fresh Produce Consortium of Kenya President Okisegere Ojepat said the partnership is designed to address the long-standing mismatch between skills acquired in training institutions and those required in the workplace.

He said the consortium, working with the State Department for TVET, is implementing a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at strengthening ties between industry and training institutions.

"We want to increase exports, increase job opportunities and ensure the skills mismatch we have experienced before is addressed," Ojepat said.

He said industry and TVET institutions will jointly develop curricula based on current and emerging needs in the fresh produce sector. The collaboration will also provide structured practical training through demonstration farms, training centres and centres of excellence.

Ojepat said learners will gain hands-on experience while still in training, improving their readiness for employment. He added that institutions will be aligned with specific value chains and geographical areas to ensure students are exposed to real agricultural operations.

"We will jointly develop curricula with TVET institutions, and these institutions will serve as centres of excellence, innovation and adoption of new technologies," he said.

He noted that the initiative will also benefit workers already in the sector by offering upskilling and career development opportunities. Industry players will provide farms, facilities and expertise to support training and mentorship.

The partnership will cover key areas of the fresh produce value chain, including fruits, vegetables, herbs, spices, flowers, meat and meat products, as well as value addition processes.

KDC unveils new financing products to drive sustainable investment

BY EUGINE OTIENO (MYGOV)

The Kenya Development Corporation (KDC) has unveiled a new suite of financial products, along with its Sustainability and Green Financing Strategy 2026-2029, which expands access to finance, attracts investment and accelerates the country's transition to a greener and more inclusive economy.

The revamped financial products have been developed in response to feedback from businesses, investors and industry players, with KDC seeking to simplify access to financing while responding to emerging investment opportunities.

In a press release, the corporation said the launch also marked the rollout of KDC's Sustainability and Green Financing Strategy 2026-2029, which places environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations at the centre of its decision-making and investment activities.

The strategy seeks to mobilize investment towards renewable energy, sustainable manufacturing, climate-smart agriculture, green infrastructure and circular economy solutions, aligning KDC with emerging global standards for climate finance.

Speaking during the launch, KDC Director General Norah Ratemo said the twin initiatives were designed to respond to changing economic conditions and the evolving needs of businesses.

Ratemo also announced that KDC would launch Kenya's first KDC Green Fund, which she said would strengthen the corporation's efforts to mobilise climate-aligned capital and position it as a catalyst for green growth.

"Our new Financial Products and Sustainability Strategy are therefore complementary. One expands access to financing for businesses, while the other ensures that this investment creates long-term economic, social and environmental value," she said.

"Together, they position KDC to support enterprises that are not only profitable, but also resilient, responsible and prepared for the future," she added.

KDC Board Director Michael Kagika said the initiatives represented the Board's recognition that the corporation must continue evolving alongside the economy it serves.

He said KDC is positioning itself to attract investment, support innovation and create sustainable growth as global capital increasingly seeks projects that deliver both financial returns and long-term social and environmental value.

Principal Secretary for Cooperatives Patrick Kilemi underscored the role of Kenya's cooperative movement in mobilizing domestic capital for productive investment.

He noted that the cooperative finance sector contributes 30 per cent of Kenya's GDP demonstrating its significance not only as a financial intermediary but also as a key pillar of economic development and wealth creation.

He urged cooperatives to look beyond traditional savings and lending models and explore opportunities to invest directly in productive enterprises, infrastructure and strategic sectors, including through partnership with institutions such as KDC.

Government distributes 4,000 chicks to improve livelihoods in Trans Nzoia

The programme was designed to transform the livestock sector by empowering smallholder farmers with improved poultry breeds capable of generating food and income at household level

Trans Nzoia Woman Representative Lilian Siyoi handing over Improved Indigenous day old chicks to beneficiaries during the distribution of 4,000 chicks to 31 self-help groups in Motosiet Ward, Cherangany Sub County, Trans Nzoia County.

Photo by Winnie Jelagat.

BY ISAIAH NAYIKA AND WINNIE JELAGAT (KNA)

The government has distributed 4,000 improved indigenous chicken day cold chicks to smallholder farmers in Trans Nzoia County in a bid to boost food security and enhance income generation.

The chicks distributed through the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development were handed over to 31 self-help groups at Mateket Primary School, Motosiet Ward, Cherangany Sub County.

Representing Principal Secretary for Livestock Development Jonathan Mueke, Deputy Director Livestock Production Josephat Smollo said the programme was designed to transform the livestock sector by empowering smallholder farmers with improved poultry breeds capable of generating food and income at household level.

Smollo said the improved indigenous breed combines the hardiness and adaptability of indigenous chicken with enhanced productivity traits such as faster growth, increased egg production and improved resistance to diseases. He noted that the improved chicks can produce between 200 and 220 eggs per year, compared to indigenous chicken which produces about 45 eggs annually.

The improved birds attain a mature weight of approximately two kilogrammes in three and a half months, compared to indigenous chicken which takes about eight months to attain a weight of approximately 1.5 kilogrammes.

Smollo said the initiative targets women, youth and vulnerable groups, with the government seeking to strengthen food security at household level while creating opportunities for income generation and self-employment.

"If we can stabilise food security at farm level, we will be able to put food on the table and money in the pocket of every household," he said.

He urged the beneficiaries to take good care of the chicks and utilise the knowledge provided through training to ensure the project becomes sustainable.

Trans Nzoia County Woman Representative Lilian Siyoi said the distribution of the chicks was a practical way of empowering women and other vulnerable groups by giving them an opportunity to establish income-generating activities.

Siyoi thanked the national government for supporting farmers through programmes under the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA), saying the initiative would help create employment and improve livelihoods.

She said beneficiaries had been trained on how to rear the chicks, adding that once the birds mature, farmers would be able to sell them or their products to generate income.Siyoi noted that poultry farming would enable beneficiaries to become self-employed while contributing to improved food and nutrition security in their households.

Teresia Cherotich a beneficiary thanked the national government for choosing to empower farmers with productive assets, saying the chicks would give her a sustainable source of income compared to receiving a small amount of cash.

Malaria control efforts intensify in Kerio Valley

BY RENNISH OKONG'O (KNA)

Efforts to contain malaria transmission in the Kerio Valley have intensified.

The Elgeyo Marakwet County Department of Public Health has commenced indoor residual spraying at Kaparon in Endo Ward, Kerio Valley Sub-County.

The exercise is part of a broader malaria prevention and control intervention targeting households in the ward, with the programme expected to cover all eligible households as part of efforts to reduce mosquito populations and interrupt malaria transmission.

Preventive and Promotive Health Services Chief Officer Caroline Magut, who led the public health team during a demonstration said the county government was committed to strengthening preventive interventions in malaria-prone areas of the Kerio Valley.

"Indoor residual spraying is a critical public health intervention in our efforts to reduce malaria transmission in Kerio Valley. By ensuring that all households in Endo Ward are covered, we aim to protect residents by reducing the population of malaria-transmitting mosquitoes within homes," Magut said.

She urged residents to cooperate with the spraying teams and allow trained personnel access to their houses to ensure the intervention achieves the intended public health outcomes.

"We appeal to all households to support this exercise by allowing our teams to carry out the spraying as scheduled. Community participation is essential if we are to achieve comprehensive coverage and effectively contain malaria," Magut said.

Acting Director of Public Health Renisson Changwony said the intervention formed part of an integrated approach to malaria prevention, surveillance and control in areas considered vulnerable to the disease.

"Indoor residual spraying complements other malaria prevention measures, including the use of treated mosquito nets, early diagnosis and prompt treatment. Our objective is to reduce the risk of transmission and ultimately lower the malaria burden among communities in the Kerio Valley," Changwony said.

He added that the department would continue monitoring the implementation of the programme to ensure adherence to established public health and environmental safety standards.

"We have deployed trained personnel to conduct the exercise, and we will closely monitor coverage and implementation to ensure that the intervention delivers the desired impact," Changwony said.

County Malaria Control Coordinator Mary Towett said household-level participation would be critical in achieving effective coverage, noting that indoor residual spraying works by applying approved insecticides to interior surfaces where malaria-transmitting mosquitoes are likely to rest.

"For the intervention to be effective, we need maximum household coverage. We are encouraging residents to cooperate with the spraying teams and follow the guidance provided before, during and after the spraying exercise," Towett said.

OPINION: LEADERSHIP

Africa must make cancer treatment a right, not a privilege

BY PROF. SHAUKAT ABDULRAZAK

Cancer is rapidly becoming one of Africa's most urgent health and development challenges. Yet for millions, survival depends not only on the disease, but also on where they live, their income and whether diagnosis and treatment are accessible. That is an injustice Africa must no longer accept - a message I emphasised during my keynote address at the African Radiation Oncology Group (AFROG) Conference, in Nairobi.

Africa records around 1.1 million new cancer cases and approximately 700,000 cancer-related deaths annually, and the burden is projected to rise sharply. About half of cancer patients will require radiotherapy at some stage, whether for cure, disease control or pain relief.

Yet Africa's capacity remains dangerously inadequate. An IAEA-supported assessment identified only about 430 megavoltage radiotherapy machines across Africa in 2020, heavily concentrated in a few countries. Using the widely applied planning assumption of approximately one machine for every 500 new patients treated annually, the continent needs well over 1,000 treatment machines today, with demand increasing as cancer incidence rises. The IAEA's DIRAC database provides the global framework for monitoring radiotherapy equipment and capacity. The diagnostic gap is equally serious. CT, MRI, mammography, pathology, nuclear medicine and PET capacity remains severely constrained in many African countries. Without timely diagnosis, cancers are discovered later, treatments become more complicated and expensive, and survival declines.

Kenya illustrates both the progress being made and the scale of the remaining challenge. The country has established a National Cancer Control Strategy 2023-2027 covering prevention, early detection, imaging, pathology, treatment, palliative care and surveillance. The Government is also pursuing a hub-and-spoke approach linking national referral facilities with regional cancer centres and exploring AI-enabled diagnosis and radiotherapy technologies. This is progressive.

But Kenya's greatest deficit is not simply machines—it is people. The Kenya Cancer Policy 2019–2030 provides a revealing assessment. Using an IAEA-based benchmark of one radiation oncologist per 250 cancer patients, Kenya required 192 radiation oncologists, compared with only 17 available at the policy baseline—a gap of 175 specialists. For medical physicists, the benchmark of one per 400 patients translated into a requirement of 120, against only 10 available, leaving a gap of 110. Kenya similarly required approximately 160 oncology nurses for radiation oncology services, compared with 60 available—a deficit of about 100 nurses. The good news is the workforce has continued to grow. They nevertheless demonstrate the magnitude of the structural deficit that must be overcome. Kenya's newer cervical-cancer action plan, for example, proposes minimum staffing for each comprehensive cancer treatment centre including one radiation oncologist, four medical physicists, 12 oncology nurses, two pathologists and two medical-engineering technologists, alongside other specialists. While working at the IAEA, I observed a similar if not worse situations in other Sub-Saharan African countries.

This is why purchasing machines alone cannot solve Africa's cancer crisis. A linear accelerator without qualified medical physicists and radiation oncologists is little more than expensive infrastructure. Cancer care requires an ecosystem of oncologists, radiologists, pathologists, medical physicists, radiation therapists, oncology nurses, pharmacists, biomedical engineers, technicians and researchers. Our unit of investment must therefore be a functioning, safe and sustainable cancer service, not simply a machine delivered and commissioned.

Kenya and Africa at large must consequently act on five fronts. First, cancer diagnosis and treatment must be recognised as essential health infrastructure and integrated into Universal Health Coverage. Second, services must be decentralised. A patient in Lamu, Turkana, Mandera or rural western Kenya should not have to travel hundreds of kilometres repeatedly for diagnosis and weeks of radiotherapy. Third, Africa must dramatically expand training in oncology, radiology, pathology, medical physics, radiation therapy, oncology nursing and biomedical engineering. Universities, teaching hospitals and professional bodies must become central partners. Fourth, we must harness artificial intelligence, tele-radiology, digital pathology, precision medicine and genomics to extend scarce expertise, accelerate diagnosis and improve treatment planning. We must invest in cancer research as well. Fifth, Africa must develop local capacity for maintenance and eventually manufacturing selected medical devices, software, components and consumables. Technology transfer should accompany every major equipment investment. Domestic adequate financing will be paramount.

Initiatives such as the IAEA's Rays of Hope demonstrate the power of international partnership, but Africa now requires a continental movement built on domestic financing, regional cooperation and measurable targets may be under the Auspicious of the Africa Union or regional economic blocks. Our scorecard should be clear: radiotherapy machines, CT and MRI scanners and oncology specialists per million people; machine uptime; geographical access; waiting time from diagnosis to treatment; and ultimately five-year cancer survival.

Cancer treatment must cease being a privilege determined by geography or income. Every machine installed, every Kenyan and African specialist trained, every cancer detected early and every patient treated on time brings us closer to an Africa where a cancer diagnosis does not extinguish the hope of cure. It can be done.

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Sh100b highway transforming the Northern Frontier

BY ALICE WANJIRU (KNA)

For decades, navigating the corridor between Nairobi-Kitale-Lodwar, and the far reaches of Turkana was more of an endurance test with transporters routinely spending a minimum of seven grueling days to conquer the terrain.

It was a passage defined by unrelenting dust, deep rutted tracks, and relentless mechanical wear as truck axles snapped, suspensions shattered, and tires disintegrated, forcing drivers into costly, prolonged roadside repairs that ate into the narrow profit margins leaving cargo stranded under the scorching sun.

With the completion of the Kitale-Lodwar road a massive undertaking funded jointly by the Kenyan government and the World Bank at a cost of 100 billion Kenyan shillings will re-engineer the mobility of both people and commerce in Northern Kenya.

As a vital part of the A1 standard highway, this upgraded corridor stretches northward from Kitale through Kapenguria, Marich Pass, Kainuk, Lokichar, and Lodwar, before extending further to Lokichogio and the Nadapal border with South Sudan.

According to James Kinuthia, a long-distance truck driver who has navigated the route for several years., what was once an arduous, week-long journey across these expansive terrains has been slashed to a reliable, swift transit network for both cargo haulers and everyday commuters.

Kinuthia says for long-distance operators, the impact was immediate with fleet operators who once managed a maximum of four trips a month now completing two round trips in a single week, with breakdown expenses plunging.

The driver who, regularly plies the Nairobi-Kitale-Lodwar-Lokichogio-Kakuma road to supply retail shop goods before hauling charcoal back to Nairobi on his return trip says previously each trip meant having a significant amount of money for repair and days of spending nights in the trucks waiting for spare parts or stuck in the sand.

Mwalimu Moses Lekware says this newfound logistical speed mirrors a parallel revolution in passenger transit saying local travelers who historically braced themselves for a grueling three-day journey now reach their destinations in a mere four hours.

"This drastic reduction in time is matched by reduced transit costs as commuters who once paid Sh2,500 from Kitale to Lodwar now pay just Sh1,000 by bus and Sh1,500 by shuttle," he says.

He says the synchronized transport savings directly feed back into the micro-economy, leaving both traders and passengers with significantly higher profit margins.

Martha Emone a small scale trader at Lokichar who gets her wares from Ortum in neighbouring West Pokot county says they no longer need to plan expensive, multi-day sourcing expeditions.

"I used to suffer losses as I spend days on the road as vegetables are highly perishable, now I can leave Lokichar at dawn, buy fresh vegetables directly from farmers in Ortum by midday, and be back on my stall before nightfall ensuring my customers get the vegetables while still fresh," she said.

Yet the smooth tarmac is only half of the transformation as hand-in-hand with physical mobility the government according to reports from the Presidential Delivery Unit (PDU) has spent Sh16.5 million to supply power into towns by connecting electricity to over 1,200 local residents who previously operated in total darkness and various public institutions.

Mwalimu Lekware says before these interventions and the installation of solar-powered street lighting, a self-imposed security curfew governed local life.

"By 6:00 PM, this town would remain a ghost town with everybody having left for home for fear of insecurity but nowadays the situation has changed entirely with the town becoming vibrant and alive well into the evening," he said.

Thomas Ekai, a village elder says with reliable grid electricity and well lit main streets, local economies no longer grind to a halt when the sun sets as the extended trading hours have sparked entirely new industries.

He said specialized local businesses like metal fabricators and welders have taken off while modern salons and barbershops run uninterrupted adding that in a region known for its intense, relentless heat, access to continuous power has turned refrigeration into a lucrative business.

"Before the power came, it was hard to get a cold soda or bottle of water, today refrigerators run all day and night and therefore keeping drinks icy cold in this heat isn't a luxury anymore," he narrated.

This dual triumph of infrastructure Ekai says has fundamentally reshaped public service delivery and healthcare in the region saying connecting the local hospital to the electricity grid has completely revolutionized community medical care.

The stable power supply has enabled our health facility to offer critical, lifesaving services locally including fully functional theatre operations, laboratory testing, and mortuary services eliminating the need for residents to travel hundreds of kilometers to seek the same.

Consolata Lomer notes that these improvements have also dramatically boosted public servant retention saying with reliable roads, functioning healthcare facilities, and widespread electricity, teachers, doctors, and administrative staff are now eager to stay and work in the region whereas previously they would demand immediate transfers upon reporting for duty.

Together, smooth tarmac and widespread electrification have reshaped the region's identity. Remote outposts once viewed as desolate frontier settlements are rapidly evolving into bustling urban centers with towns like Lokichar now fully light up in the night, making them glow beautifully just like any other modern town.

Experts want Kiswahili to be the backbone of technology and digital content in East Africa

BY MISHEBA ALFRED AND MERCY OSONGO (KNA)

Swahili language experts from various countries have met at Kisii University to discuss the role of the language in development, emphasizing its importance in technology, research and the production of digital content that reflects East African cultures.

The East African Swahili Association (CHAKAMA) conference brought together more than two hundred participants from Kenya, Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar, Rwanda, Burundi as well as experts from American and European universities.

Speaking at the conference, the Mombasa Regional Education Minister, Dr. Mbwarali Kame, said the Swahili language has an important role in digital systems.

"It is our responsibility as Africans to respect the Swahili language so that it can be more recognized internationally and contribute to technological development," said Dr. Kame.

The Chairman of the University of Nairobi Council, Professor Chacha Nyaigotti Chacha, stressed that Swahili has the potential to be fully used in the fields of education, science and technology without vocabulary restrictions.

"Any language grows through use. Swahili has sufficient vocabulary and terminology, and where they are lacking, we have the ability to invent and develop ourselves," Professor Chacha said.

The Executive Secretary of the East African Swahili Commission, Dr. Caroline Asiimwe, called for increased investment in research and artificial intelligence (AI) systems, emphasizing the importance of collective data collection in the region.

"There is a need for a common Swahili database that will help promote its use in technology and innovation," said Dr. Asiimwe.

Dr. Shadidi Ndosa from St. John's University, Tanzania, highlighted the importance of Kiswahili in the production of children's content that focuses on African cultures.

"It is important to ensure that children's content produced in Swahili reflects the traditions, customs and personality of East Africa instead of simply imitating those from outside," Dr. Ndosa said.

He added the media plays an important role in creating content like comics, books and other digital products that promote the culture of the region.

For her part, Professor Clara Momanyi of Kenyatta University said there is a need to ensure that Swahili does not lag behind in the pace of technological development in the world.

"We need to collaborate with language technology experts to ensure that Kiswahili is fully integrated into technological use like other international languages," Dr. Momanyi said.


Conference participants pose for a group photo outside the institute building after the research session held in Kisii

For her part, CHAKAMA Chairperson, Dr. Juliet Jagero, called on Swahili experts to provide a clear direction on how the language will be incorporated into technology, instead of copying foreign systems without the context of the language.

He said the conference aims to provide resolutions that help increase policies and strategies to develop Swahili, especially among the current generation of young people who use technology to a large extent.

"Where does Swahili stand in the world of technology? This is the question we want to answer through this discussion," Dr. Jagero said.

Participants agreed that Swahili is a language with great potential to be a tool for social, economic and technological development if developed through research, strong policies and regional and international cooperation.

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Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral and Research Hospital (KUTRRH) is a State Corporation established under Legal Notice No. 4 of 2019 as a Level 6 Referral Hospital equipped with state-of-the-art medical equipment and facilities. KUTRRH employs cutting edge research, innovation, training and partnerships to keep abreast with advancements in healthcare management. The Hospital's vision is to be a premier referral Hospital renown for excellence in clinical care, training, research and innovation with a mission to enhance the health and well-being of Kenyans and global citizens through provision of patient-centered and evidence-based healthcare.

KUTRRH is seeking to recruit highly motivated, dynamic and result oriented individuals of high integrity, innovation and ability to delivery results to fill the following vacant positions. The Hospital invites applications from suitably qualified candidates to fill the following positions:

SN.	POSITION	TERMS OF SERVICE	POSTS	GRADE	JOB REFERENCE NUMBER
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2.	Deputy Director, Human Resource Management and Development	P&P	1	KUH 3	V/FT/E/2026/2
3.	Deputy Director, Administration	P&P	1	KUH 3	V/FT/E/2026/3

<u>HOW TO APPLY</u>:

For detailed job descriptions, qualifications, and application instructions, please visit our website at (**https://www.kutrrh.go.ke/careers/**).

All applications should be submitted via (**https://recruitment.kutrrh.go.ke/**) with the subject line clearly indicating the position applied for (e.g., ***"Application for Director, Human Resource & Administration"*** and Job Reference Number). All applications should reach KUTRRH not later than **Tuesday, September 01, 2026.**

Please note that:

i. Kenyatta University Teaching, Referral, and Research Hospital does not charge a fee at any stage of the recruitment process.
ii. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.
iii. Canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification.
iv. Shortlisted candidates will be required to demonstrate compliance with Chapter Six of the Constitution by submitting required documents (e.g., clearance certificates from EACC, DCI, KRA, HELB, CRB and CUE/ KNAQ for those with academic qualifications obtained from learning institutions outside Kenya).

KUTRRH is an equal opportunity employer and respects inclusivity and diversity. Persons living with disabilities and individuals from marginalized and minority communities who meet the person specifications are strongly encouraged to apply.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

BANQUE AFRICAINE DE DEVELOPPEMENT · AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK

AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT FUND · FONDS AFRICAIN DE DEVELOPPEMENT

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE CAPACITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR THE PROJECT COORDINATION UNIT AND IMPLEMENTATION TEAM - REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0013

PROJECT:	SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PHASE II
SECTOR:	EDUCATION
PROJECT ID NO.:	P-KE-IA0-003
FINANCING AGREEMENT REFERENCE:	ADF NO. 2100150045045

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the African Development Fund (ADF) towards the implementation of the Support to Higher Education, Science and Technology (HEST) Phase II Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this Loan to payments under the contract for consultancy services to undertake a Capacity Needs Assessment and Capacity Building Programme for the Project Coordination Unit and Implementation Team.

The services included under this project are to assess the institutional and individual capacity needs of the Project Coordination Unit and Implementation Team and develop and implement an appropriate capacity development programme that will strengthen project planning, implementation, monitoring, financial management, procurement, reporting and overall project performance.

The services to be provided under the assignment include:

i. Conduct a comprehensive training needs assessment for the Project Coordination Unit and Implementation Team.
ii. Assess existing knowledge, skills, competencies and institutional capacity relevant to project implementation.
iii. Identify competency gaps and prioritize training needs for different staff categories.
iv. Develop a 5-year training plan based on the needs assessment
v. Deliver the key common needs training Programmes
vi. Provide recommendations for continuous professional development

The assignment is expected to be undertaken over a period of **five (5) months**.

The State Department for Higher Education now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's 'Procurement Policy for the Bank Group funded Operations' dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at **http://www.afdb.org**.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from **0800 to 1700 hours,** from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour **(1300 to 1400Hrs)** and public holidays

Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Consultant Qualification Selection (CQS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Expressions of interest must be submitted in English and delivered to the address below in person or by mail, on or before **7th September 2026 at 1100 EAT** marked: **"CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE CAPACITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMMES FOR THE PROJECT COORDINATION UNIT AND IMPLEMENTATION TEAM - REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0013"**

Attn: Deputy Director, Supply Chain Management Services
State Department for Higher Education
8th Floor, Jogoo House B, Room 807
P.O. Box 9583 – 00200 Nairobi
Telephone: +254 020 318581
Tel/Fax: 254 020 2251991
NAIROBI, KENYA

E-mail: sduerprocurement@gmail.com

KENYA VISION 2030

OPINION: JUSTICE

Bridging the justice gap

NLAS strengthens access to justice through grievance mechanisms and community partnerships

BY FRESHIA GATHUMBI

Access to justice is a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 48 of the Constitution of Kenya. Yet for many communities, particularly those living near large-scale investments, accessing justice remains a challenge due to financial constraints, geographical barriers and limited awareness of available legal remedies.

The National Legal Aid Service (NLAS) is playing an increasingly important role in closing this gap by strengthening access to legal aid, supporting effective Operational Grievance Mechanisms (OGMs) and building partnerships that bring justice closer to the people.

Operational Grievance Mechanisms are company-established processes designed to receive and resolve complaints from individuals and communities affected by business activities.

Guided by the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), these mechanisms are intended to provide timely, accessible and non-judicial remedies for issues such as labour disputes, land conflicts, environmental concerns and community grievances before they escalate into lengthy court proceedings.

While OGMs offer the potential for faster and more accessible dispute resolution, their effectiveness depends on how they are designed and implemented. If poorly managed, they risk becoming procedural exercises that fail to provide meaningful remedies or accountability.

This is where NLAS plays a critical role. By providing legal advice, representation and guidance, NLAS helps communities understand and effectively engage with grievance mechanisms.

It also supports individuals whose grievances remain unresolved, monitors grievance processes to promote fairness and non-retaliation, and advocates for stronger links between company-level grievance mechanisms and Kenya's formal justice system.

Recognising that access to justice requires collaboration, the State Department for Justice, Human Rights and Constitutional Affairs, the National Legal Aid Service, Del Monte Kenya Limited and HAKI Africa launched a Legal Aid Centre in Murang'a County on 31 July 2026.

The centre will serve residents of Murang'a and neighbouring areas by providing legal advice, mediation services and referrals to the formal justice system where necessary.

The establishment of the centre represents an important step towards reducing barriers that have traditionally prevented many citizens from seeking justice.

Beyond offering legal assistance, the centre will promote early dispute resolution, strengthen community dialogue and serve as a platform for legal awareness and rights education. It is expected to contribute to conflict prevention while ensuring that vulnerable individuals have access to timely and affordable legal support.

The partnership brings together the complementary strengths of government and civil society and the private sector. The State Department and NLAS provide policy leadership, legal expertise and access to alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.

HAKI Africa contributes its experience in community mobilisation and human rights advocacy, while Del Monte Kenya Limited demonstrates the important role that responsible businesses can play in supporting sustainable development and fostering positive relationships with neighbouring communities.

The initiative also creates opportunities to strengthen Kenya's broader business and human rights agenda. These include developing joint training programmes on rights-based grievance handling, supporting pilot initiatives where NLAS lawyers assist in grievance resolution processes, collecting data to inform future policy reforms, and establish community justice centres as models for accessible, people-centred justice.

Experience from Kenya and internationally demonstrates that effective remedies are best achieved through a complementary system in which judicial mechanisms remain the cornerstone of accountability, supported by well-functioning Operational Grievance Mechanisms and community-based legal aid services. Within this framework, NLAS serves as an essential bridge between communities and businesses and state institutions, ensuring that grievance mechanisms remain fair, accessible and consistent with human rights standards.

To further strengthen access to effective remedies, stakeholders have recommended the wider adoption of the UNGP-compliant Operational Grievance Mechanisms with appropriate oversight, increased investment in NLAS to support business and human rights cases, sustained legal awareness campaigns in project-affected communities, independent monitoring of grievance mechanisms and legal aid centres, and greater transparency through public reporting on grievance outcomes.

As Kenya continues to pursue economic growth and attract investment, safeguarding human rights must remain central to sustainable development. Access to justice should not depend on where one lives or their economic status. Through strategic partnerships, strengthened grievance mechanisms and expanded legal aid services, the National Legal Aid Service is helping translate the constitutional promise of justice into meaningful protection for individuals and communities. In doing so, it continues to uphold the rule of law, strengthen public confidence in justice institutions, and ensure that development leaves no one behind.

— The author is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Legal Aid Service

KISIP II improves access to education and healthcare in Wajir informal settlements

BY HAMDI BUTHUL (KNA)

Improved roads, drainage systems and solar-powered street lighting under the Second Kenya Informal Settlements Improvement Project (KISIP II) are enhancing access to education and healthcare services in Wajir Municipality's informal settlements.

The infrastructure investments have improved connectivity to schools and health facilities in Shalatey, Hodhan, Halane, Wagberi, Jogoo and Borwaqo settlements, reducing challenges previously caused by sandy and impassable roads, flooding and inadequate lighting.

Implemented by the State Department for Housing and Urban Development under the Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development, KISIP II is supported by the World Bank, Agence Française de Développement (AFD), the European Union and the County Government of Wajir.

The project has delivered more than 8.4 kilometres of roads, nearly 10 kilometres of drainage channels, more than 400 solar-powered streetlights and several high-mast flashlights across the targeted settlements.

Wajir County Project Manager Engineer Dan Owore said the improved infrastructure had strengthened access to essential public services, including schools and health facilities.

"The project has improved accessibility to residential areas, schools, health facilities and markets. Residents can now move more easily, while service providers can reach communities without the difficulties experienced before," said Owore.

At Wajir Excel Academy in Halane Settlement, the improved road network has addressed challenges that previously affected learning.

School manager Ismail Abdikadir said the road outside the institution was previously covered with loose soil and generated considerable dust whenever vehicles passed.

"The classrooms are located close to the road, so dust and noise from passing vehicles affected lessons," he said.

Abdikadir said the upgraded road had improved the learning environment while reducing transport-related costs for the school.

"Our school buses now consume less fuel because the road is smoother, while the streetlights have also improved security around the school," he said.

He added that the improved environment had enabled learners to concentrate better during lessons.

"Children are no longer distracted by dust and excessive noise. They are able to concentrate more during lessons, and we have observed improvements in their academic performance," he said.

The improved road network has also made it easier for learners and teachers to access schools during different weather conditions.

Previously, sections of the settlements became difficult to navigate during rainy periods, affecting movement and sometimes disrupting access to educational institutions.

At Borwaqo Girls Primary and Junior School, solar-powered flashlights have provided an additional benefit by improving visibility within the school compound, particularly in the boarding section.

The school's Headteacher Abdirashid Aden Mohamed said the lighting had enabled boarders to undertake evening activities despite frequent power interruptions.

"The girls can study comfortably at night, conduct group discussions and complete their assignments," he said.

Mohamed said the improved lighting had also strengthened security within the school compound and increased parents' confidence in the safety of their children.

"The well-lit compound has improved security, and parents are more confident about leaving their children in school," he said.

The project has similarly improved access to healthcare, particularly for residents who previously faced difficulties reaching health facilities because of poor roads and insecurity at night.

At Hodhan Dispensary, health workers say improved road access and street lighting have made it easier for patients to seek medical attention, including during emergencies.

Adow Billow, the nurse-in-charge at the facility said poor road conditions previously discouraged some residents from seeking treatment, particularly at night.

"Today patients can reach the health centre more easily because of the improved road and street lighting," he said.

"Pregnant women in labour can now arrive safely even at night using motorcycles or vehicles."

The health facility has also recorded an increase in outpatient attendance following completion of the infrastructure works.

According to the facility, outpatient attendance has increased by approximately 30 per cent, with improved accessibility enabling more residents to seek treatment.

The nurse said the upgraded road had also improved the movement of ambulances, medical supplies and community health promoters.

"The road has improved access for ambulances, medicine deliveries and outreach services. Security has also improved because the facility is well lit throughout the night," he said.

Improved accessibility has also reduced the difficulties faced by health workers conducting community outreach programmes.

Community health promoters can now reach households more efficiently, while larger vehicles transporting medicines and other supplies can access the facility without the challenges previously posed by sandy roads.

Wajir County KISIP Coordinator Mohamed Adow Abdi said improving access to social services was one of the key objectives of the infrastructure investment.

"When roads are accessible, people can reach schools and health facilities more easily, while service providers can also reach residents," said Adow.

He said the project had demonstrated that investment in basic infrastructure could have wider benefits beyond roads and drainage.

Government delivers milk coolers to boost dairy sector in Nandi County

A truck ferrying milk Coolers in Nandi County. Five of them, each 2000- litres capacity, were delivered by the government to the County last week to boost the dairy sector.

BY SAMMY MWIBANDA (KNA)

The State Department for Livestock Development has distributed five 2000-litre capacity milk coolers to dairy cooperatives in Nandi county.

The coolers are expected to boost the dairy sector by reducing post-harvest losses, improving milk quality and enabling farmers to earn better returns from their produce.

The coolers, issued under the Livestock Value Chain Support Project (LVCSP) to dairy cooperatives, are expected to strengthen collective milk collection and aggregation by providing farmers with reliable facilities where milk can be stored at appropriate temperatures before being transported to processors and other markets.

Without adequate facilities to preserve the highly perishable commodity, gallons of milk were going to waste.

For smallholder farmers, the intervention marks an important shift from merely increasing milk production to ensuring that a greater proportion of what is produced reaches the market in good condition.

Director of Livestock Development at the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Dr Bashar Elmi, emphasized the importance of investing in infrastructures that support farmers throughout the livestock value chain.

He stated that increased milk production alone cannot guarantee higher incomes if farmers continue losing their produce because of inadequate storage and transportation facilities.

"The new coolers are expected to help address one of the persistent challenges facing dairy farmers which include milk spoilage between milking and delivery to the market," he said.

In many rural areas, he said, farmers have traditionally depended on rapid collection of milk because of limited cooling facilities.

When collection was delayed, farmers were forced to sell milk cheaply or lost it altogether.

He added that by placing the cooling facilities under dairy cooperatives, the government has effectively strengthened the institutions through which farmers collectively market their produce.

The Director asked the cooperatives to aggregate milk from individual farmers, cool it and organize transportation in bulk.

Kenya Power seeks more baseload for renewables

BY SHARON NJERU AND ZIPPORAH ODIONYI (KNA)

Dr. (Eng.) Joseph Siror, Managing Director and CEO of Kenya Power, speaking during a State of the Grid briefing on the future of renewable energy and power stability in Kenya. Photo by Sharon Njeru.

Increased investment in baseload generation will support the growing contribution of solar and wind power to the national grid.

Kenya Power Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Dr (Eng) Joseph Siror said Kenya must expand reliable generation capacity to manage fluctuations in electricity output from variable renewable energy (VRE) sources and maintain power quality.

Speaking during a State of the Grid briefing, Siror said changes in solar and wind generation energy can affect the balance between electricity supply and demand, with variations reflected in the system's frequency and voltage.

"Grid stability is dependent on two key factors, generation and demand," he said.

He explained that solar generation can fall sharply when clouds block sunlight, creating an immediate gap between available supply and demand that must be addressed by other generation sources.

The Kenya Power CEO said the country's VRE penetration currently stands at about 21 per cent, with solar and wind contributing significantly to the generation mix.

He said the growing contribution of these sources should be matched with investment in dependable generation, particularly geothermal and hydroelectric power.

He further called for the development of fast-ramping generation technologies capable of responding quickly when renewable output changes.

According to Dr Siror, sudden reductions in solar or wind generation can require power stations to increase production within a short period to maintain the supply-demand balance.

Funding spurs youth environmental innovation

BY NANCY OMONDI (KNA)

Seven youth-led enterprises have received seed capital to expand innovative solutions in waste management, agriculture, clean energy, water and affordable housing.

With a funding of Sh31.5 million, the young Kenyans are turning some of the country's most pressing environmental challenges into business opportunities.

The financing, awarded by the Kenya Community Development Foundation (KCDF), marks the third edition of the Young Environmentalist Innovation Challenge (YEIC), an initiative launched in 2023 to identify, nurture and scale environmental solutions developed by young people across the country.

The seven winners were selected from more than 700 applications submitted by young innovators nationwide. Their ideas were assessed on their level of innovation, potential community impact, sustainability and ability to grow.

For the young entrepreneurs, the funding represents more than financial support. It offers an opportunity to turn ideas developed in their communities into sustainable enterprises capable of creating jobs, protecting the environment and improving livelihoods.

KCDF Executive Director Grace Maingi said young innovators have an important role to play in finding solutions to Kenya's environmental challenges.

"The solutions we need, for waste, for clean energy, for the trees we have lost, for the soils our farmers depend on, will only come from people willing to sit at the same table, share resources, share risks, and share credit," said Maingi.

She said the initiative was celebrating young Kenyans whose determination and creativity had transformed bold ideas into enterprises addressing real challenges in their communities.

The latest round of funding comes at a time when Kenya is seeking to harness the creativity and entrepreneurial potential of its growing youth population.

Among the beneficiaries is Twende Green Ecocycle from Mombasa County, which is tackling the growing problem of marine plastic waste by transforming discarded plastics into durable and affordable school furniture.

In Bungoma, Fibertext Green Paper Ltd is giving agricultural waste a new purpose by converting discarded banana stems and fibres into biodegradable paper packaging.

Queening Afrika in Nairobi is addressing waste from synthetic hair by turning discarded hair into handbags, home décor products and other environmentally friendly items.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE A PHYSICAL PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGNS AND SUPERVISION OF WORKS, EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS AND USERS FOR THE PROPOSED CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN CIVIL AND MARINE ENGINEERING AT THE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA- REOI No: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0002

PROJECT:	SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PHASE II
SECTOR:	EDUCATION
PROJECT ID NO.:	P-KE-IA0-003
FINANCING AGREEMENT REFERENCE	ADF NO. 2100150045045

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the African Development Fund (ADF) toward the cost of the Support to Higher Education Science and Technology Phase II project to improve relevance and equitable access to quality higher education training and research in STEM for inclusive economic growth and employment in Kenya by 2030. The state Department intends to apply part of the agreed amount from the financing to payments under the contract for consultancy services to undertake a physical plan, architectural and engineering designs and supervision of works, equipment installation, testing, commissioning and training of technicians and users for the proposed center of excellence in civil and marine engineering at the technical University of Mombasa.

The objective of the consultancy is to provide multidisciplinary professional services necessary for the successful planning, design, procurement support, construction supervision, equipment installation, testing, commissioning and operationalization of the proposed Centre of Excellence in Civil and Marine Engineering.

The services to be provided under the assignment include:

a) Undertake an audit and detailed needs assessment of infrastructure and equipment in the proposed CoE areas, as well as comparative analysis of similar CoEs to identify and address local gaps and prepare designs
b) Prepare sustainability and business plans/Investment plans for the CoE
c) Develop a Physical Plan for all engineering buildings, workshops, laboratories and auxiliary infrastructure and facilities;
d) Evaluate the equipment prioritized by the University in terms of costing, compatibility with other existing equipment and gaps that may exist and include the existing equipment in the CoE.
e) Develop purpose oriented architectural and engineering designs of the workshops and laboratories based on the equipment specific needs to optimally operate, such as equipment dimensions, power ratings, space requirement, installation environment needs, among other critical considerations in the operation of the equipment.
f) Preparation of bid documents for the construction and equipping of the CoE
g) Supervise the construction, equipment installation, testing and commissioning
h) Reviewing and providing detailed equipment specifications, pricing and plans for the procurement, installation, testing, commissioning, training, operation and management of the equipment, workshops and laboratories.
i) Supervision of training of staff in the operation, maintenance and management of the CoEs.

The consultancy is expected to be undertaken over an estimated period of **thirty-two (32) months**, comprising the two implementation phases **(Phase I activities is 2 months, while Phase II is 30 months)**

The State Department for Higher Education now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services **(brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.)**. Consultants may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's 'Procurement Policy for the Bank Group funded Operations' dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at **http://www.afdb.org.**

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from **0800 to 1700 hours**, from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour **(1300 to 1400Hrs)** and public holidays

Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below on or before **7th September, 2026 at 1100 EAT** marked: **"CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE A PHYSICAL PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGNS AND SUPERVISION OF WORKS, EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS AND USERS FOR THE PROPOSED CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN CIVIL AND MARINE ENGINEERING AT THE TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MOMBASA- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0002"**

Attn: Deputy Director, Supply Chain Management Services
State Department for Higher Education
8th Floor, Jogoo House B, Room 807
P.O. Box 9583 – 00200 Nairobi
Telephone: +254 020 318581, Tel/Fax: 254 020 2251991
NAIROBI, KENYA
E-mail: sduerprocurement@gmail.com

KENYA VISION 2030

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA SPACE AGENCY
Possibilities beyond our skies

VACANCIES AT KENYA SPACE AGENCY

The Kenya Space Agency (KSA) is established as a State Corporation in the Ministry of Defence vide Legal Notice No. 22 of 7th March 2017. The Mandate of the Agency is to promote, coordinate and regulate space related activities in the country.

The Kenya Space Agency notifies the public on the following vacancies.

S/No	VACANCY REF NO	DESIGNATION	KSA JOB GRADE	NO. OF VACANCIES
1	KSA/TECH/001/26-27	Principal Officer, Remote Sensing	4	1
2	KSA/TECH/002/26-27	Principal Officer, Geographic Information System	4	1
3	KSA/TECH/003/26-27	Space Infrastructure and Facility Development Officer	6	1
4	KSA/TECH/004/26-27	Space Science and Astronomy Officer	6	1
5	KSA/TECH/005/26-27	Space Operations and Systems Engineer	6	1
6	KSA/TECH/006/26-27	Navigation and Positioning Officer	6	2
7	KSA/TECH/007/26-27	Satellite Communication Officer	6	1
8	KSA/TECH/008/26-27	Surveillance Officer	6	1
9	KSA/TECH/009/26-27	Enforcement Officer	6	2
10	KSA/TECH/010/26-27	Remote Sensing Officer	6	2
11	KSA/TECH/011/26-27	Geographic Information Systems Officer	6	1
12	KSA/TECH/012/26-27	Geo-Information & Data Management Officer	6	2
13	KSA/TECH/013/26-27	Software Engineer	6	2
14	KSA/TECH/014/26-27	Space Digital Infrastructure Officer	6	1
15	KSA/TECH/015/26-27	Space Research & Innovation Officer	6	1
16	KSA/TECH/016/26-27	Space Education & Awareness Officer	6	1
17	KSA/TECH/017/26-27	Planning Officer	6	1
18	KSA/TECH/018/26-27	Quality Assurance Officer	6	1
19	KSA/ADMN/019/26-27	Finance Officer	6	1
20	KSA/ ADMN/020/26-27	Accountant	6	1
21	KSA/ ADMN/021/26-27	Internal Auditor	6	1
22	KSA/ ADMN/022/26-27	Human Resource Officer	6	1
23	KSA/ ADMN/023/26-27	Administration Officer	6	1
24	KSA/ ADMN/024/26-27	Corporate Communications Officer	6	1
25	KSA/ ADMN/025/26-27	Legal Officer	6	1
26	KSA/ ADMN/026/26-27	Supply Chain Management Officer	6	1
27	KSA/ ADMN/027/26-27	Assistant Corporate Communications Officer	8	1
28	KSA/ ADMN/028/26-27	Driver	9	1
29	KSA/ ADMN/029/26-27	Senior Office Assistant	9	1
30	KSA/ ADMN/030/26-27	Office Assistant	10	1

HOW TO APPLY

Vacancy details are to be found on the KSA website **jobs.ksa.go.ke** under opportunities page. Applications shall be submitted online through KSA Recruitment portal to be received on or before **31 August 2026** at **Midnight EAT.**

Note:

- Canvassing will lead to automatic disqualification.
- KSA **DOES NOT** charge any fee in the recruitment process
- Qualified persons irrespective of gender, age, race, culture, religion, marital status or disability are encouraged to apply.
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.
- Successful candidates will be required to fulfil the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya and present the following documents:
  i. Certificate of Good Conduct from Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI).
  ii. Compliance Certificate from higher education Loans board (HELB).
  iii. Tax Compliance Certificate from Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA).
  iv. Clearance from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC).

Director General/CEO
KENYA SPACE AGENCY

KENYA VISION 2030

KKCF businesses urged to scale up, attract investment and create jobs in Kakuma

BY SADDAT OTIENO

Turkana Deputy Governor Dr. John Erus has urged businesses supported through the Kakuma Kalobeyei Challenge Fund (KKCF) to grow into enterprises to attract investments and create jobs.

According to him, the enterprises hold the key to turning Kakuma into a commercially viable hub for the local refugee population, host communities, and communities from neighboring Uganda, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

Over the last seven years, more than 120 businesses across all sectors of the economy received funding of $11.9 million from KKCF, an International Finance Corporation (IFC) program through the Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund (AECF).

Reports indicate that the beneficiaries invested an additional $13.2 million in matching funds, catalyzing the growth of Kakuma into a multi-million-dollar market.

"Beyond the loans and grants awarded, real businesses stand out not just by becoming bigger and better, but by attracting more investments and expanding employment opportunities," Dr. Erus said.

Speaking at a trade fair organized by the County Government and KKCF in partnership with the Turkana chapter of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI), Dr. Erus said the county would continue to improve the business environment by providing the right infrastructure and services.

"As a county, we have elevated the status of Kakuma to a municipality and operationalized the Kakuma Biashara Huduma Centre. Plans are also underway to upgrade the Kakuma-Letea road and put up a slaughterhouse at the Kakuma Modern Market. All these are meant to make the business environment investor-friendly," Dr. Erus said.

On security, they received assurance from the Camp Manager and Head of the Department of Refugee Services (DRS) Thomas Siele, who said criminal elements would be dealt with in accordance with the law.

The camp manager asked traders to begin by consolidating the local market before expanding to the rest of the county and neighboring countries.

"The DRS is keen on ensuring that host and refugee communities continue to co-exist peacefully, as has been the case over the last many years. This is the reason why Kakuma continues to attract consumers and suppliers from across the nation and beyond," Siele said.

KKCF Project Manager Brian Meme confirmed that the program was winding up and urged traders to leverage networks created by consumers and suppliers to grow their businesses.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

RUIRU – JUJA WATER & SEWERAGE COMPANY LTD

P.O. Box 1165-00232.
Tel 020-2022651.
Website: www.ruiruwater.co.ke
Email: info@ruiruwater.co.ke

VACANCY

Ruiru–Juja Water & Sewerage Company Limited is a water service provider owned by the County Government of Kiambu and regulated by the Water Services Regulatory Board (WASREB). The Company provides water and sewerage services within Ruiru, Juja and Githurai and invites applications from suitably qualified, competent and results-oriented candidates for the following position:

SENIOR PUBLIC RELATIONS & COMMUNICATION OFFICER – JOB GRADE 4	
Number of Positions	**One (1)**
Terms of Service	**Three-year pensionable renewable contract**
Reporting to	**Head of Commercial Services**

Job Purpose

To support the Company's corporate communication, stakeholder engagement, public relations, media relations, branding, customer awareness and public information management.

Key Responsibilities

1) To support the Company's public relations, corporate communication, stakeholder engagement, branding and public awareness activities.
2) Prepare press releases, speeches, public notices, newsletters, briefs and communication reports.
3) Coordinate media relations, publicity and corporate branding activities.
4) Manage the Company's website, social media and other digital communication platforms.
5) Coordinate stakeholder and community engagement activities.
6) Conduct customer sensitisation on water, sewerage, billing and related services.
7) Monitor public feedback and advise management on communication and reputation matters.
8) Support crisis communication and undertake other related duties as assigned.

Minimum Requirements

Applicants must possess:

1) A Bachelor's Degree in Communication, Public Relations, Journalism, Media Studies or a related field from a recognised institution;
2) Membership in good standing with the Public Relations Society of Kenya (PRSK) will be an added advantage.
3) A minimum of six (6) years' relevant working experience;
4) Good writing, editing, media relations and presentation skills;
5) Experience in stakeholder engagement or public communication; and
6) Proficiency in the use of digital communication tools and platforms.

How to Apply

Interested and qualified candidates should submit:

1) A signed application letter;
2) A detailed curriculum vitae;
3) Copies of academic and professional certificates; and
4) A copy of the National Identity Card.

All applications **MUST** be submitted online through the application link: **https://forms.gle/riAupeNfJiT13B-pU7** provided, on or before **28th August 2026 at 5.00 p.m**. Hard-copy and email applications will not be accepted.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Canvassing in any form will lead to automatic disqualification.

The successful candidate will be required to submit the following documents in compliance with Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya:

1) A valid Tax Compliance Certificate from the Kenya Revenue Authority;
2) A clearance certificate from the Higher Education Loans Board;
3) A Certificate of Good Conduct from the Directorate of Criminal Investigations;
4) A duly completed and stamped Self-Declaration Form from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission; and
5) A clearance certificate from a recognised Credit Reference Bureau.

Ruiru–Juja Water & Sewerage Company Limited is an equal opportunity employer.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MSEA

THE WORLD BANK
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MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES AUTHORITY

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES- FIRMS SELECTION)

COUNTRY:	KENYA
NAME OF PROJECT:	NATIONAL YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES TOWARDS ADVANCEMENT (NYOTA)
Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No.:	IDA-7355-KE
Assignment Title:	BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (BDS) PROVIDERS FOR REFUGEES
Reference No:	KE-MSEA-547574-CS-QCBS

1. The Government's Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) places significant focus on the Micro, Small, and Enterprises (MSE) Sector by prioritizing financial inclusion for MSEs, adopting a value chain approach to MSE products, and promoting sustainable job creation through the sector.
2. In line with this agenda, the Government of Kenya (GoK) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the **National Youth Opportunities Towards Advancement (NYOTA)** and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.
3. The Consulting services ("the Services") include Business Development Services (BDS) to establish a foundation and systems for the sustained creation of opportunities for employment, earnings, and savings to improve economic empowerment among youth in refugee counties, Garissa and Turkana, in the Republic of Kenya. The Micro and Small Enterprises Authority ("Authority") is seeking the services of a qualified Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) to design, pilot and deliver a comprehensive Business Development Services (BDS) package targeted at refugee youth in Kenya. The targeted beneficiaries of the project are Kenyan youth aged 18 to 29 who are unemployed, have experienced extended periods of unemployment, or are currently engaged in vulnerable jobs. For persons living with disabilities (PWDs), the upper age limit is extended to 35 years.The educational level of the targeted beneficiaries ranges from Form 4 and below. The role of the Business Development Services Providers is to deliver a practical BDS package with clearly defined modules, duration, number of sessions, and expected outputs as specified in the Deliverables tailored to refugee community youth in Dadaab and Kakuma with a particular focus on social emotional and business skills training, as well as mentorship. This package may include a face-to-face training program that builds entrepreneurial mindset, resilience and core business competencies as a prerequisite input to BDS and financing pathways. The services will include one-to-one and small-group coaching to identify viable opportunities.
4. The detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) for the assignment can be found on the following website: **www.msea.go.ke**
5. The Micro and Small Enterprises Authority ("Authority") now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services. The shortlisting criteria are

   5.1 **Core business and years in business:** The firm shall be registered/incorporated as non-governmental organization with the core business in Business Development Services (BDS), entrepreneurship development, livelihoods support, youth economic empowerment, or related interventions/fields for at least five (5) years.

   5.2 **Relevant experience:** (i)The firm must have successfully undertaken at least two (2) assignments of a similar nature within the last five (5) years, including experience in refugee, humanitarian, displacement-affected, or other low-resource settings. Experience in Kenya, particularly in refugee settings, from 2018 to date. (ii) The firm must demonstrate experience in developing, adapting, or customizing BDS, entrepreneurship, livelihoods, or related training curricula to meet the contextual, cultural, socioeconomic, and methodological needs of refugee beneficiary communities. (iii) The firm must demonstrate experience in implementing ongoing programmes in the refugee camps, (Kakuma/Kalobeyei and/or Dadaab) including the delivery of Business Development Services (BDS), entrepreneurship, livelihoods, or youth economic empowerment interventions.

   5.3 **Technical and managerial capability of the firm:** (i) The firm must demonstrate ownership, access to, or the technical capacity to develop and deploy a digital platform that is accessible to beneficiaries and can facilitate the registration, attendance, participation, progress monitoring, and reporting of youth beneficiaries. (ii) The firm must demonstrate the capacity to deliver gender-responsive, disability-inclusive, safeguarding-sensitive, and trauma-informed programming, including appropriate referral pathways and accessible and confidential grievance redress mechanisms. (iii) The firm must demonstrate on-the-ground presence, qualified staffing, established networks, and adequate logistical and operational capacity in Kakuma/Kalobeyei and/or Dadaab, including demonstrated ability to mobilize, engage, train, mentor, and provide ongoing support to refugee youth. **Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage**.

6. The attention of interested Consultants is drawn to paragraph 3.14, 3.16 and 3.17 of the World Bank's ***"Procurement Regulation for IPF Borrowers"*** dated July 2016 and Revised Fifth Edition September 2023 ("Procurement Regulations") setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.
7. Consultants may associate with other firms to enhance their qualifications, but should indicate clearly whether the association is in the form of a joint venture and/or a sub-consultancy. In the case of a joint venture, all the partners in the joint venture shall be jointly and severally liable for the entire contract, if selected.
8. Consultants will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Procurement Regulations.
9. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours 0900 to 1700 hours East African Time (EAT).
10. Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below by either (i) in a plain, sealed envelope, clearly marked with the Assignment title and Reference No., and deposited in the tender box located on the Mezzanine Floor of Utalii House, Utalii Lane, Nairobi, Kenya or (ii) send by e-mail to: **scmnyota@gmail.com** and quoting the Assignment title and Reference No. in the subject line, by **Friday 4th September 2026 at 1100 hours EAT.**

Address:

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Micro and Small Enterprises Authority
Utalii House, Utalii Lane
Nairobi, Kenya
Tel.: 0770666000
E-mail: scmnyota@gmail.com Website: www.msea.go.ke

KENYA VISION 2030

Government unveils reforms ahead of Kenya Health Summit

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A (KNA)

The Government has outlined progress in the country's health sector reforms, highlighting expanded health insurance coverage, increased access to primary healthcare and investments in emergency response and medical infrastructure ahead of the inaugural Kenya Health Summit.

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale said the government is committed to ensuring healthcare becomes a right accessible to all Kenyans, rather than a privilege for a few.

Speaking ahead of the Kenya Health Summit, scheduled for today and tomorrow at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC), Duale urged the media to scrutinise the reforms and explain their impact to the public beyond official statistics.

The summit, held under the theme "Reforms Delivered, Health as a Right," will bring together the national and county governments, development partners, healthcare institutions, private-sector players, health professionals and members of the public.

According to Duale, one of the most significant reforms has been the transition from the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) to the Social Health Authority (SHA), which was launched on October 1, 2024.

He said more than 32 million Kenyans are now registered under SHA, compared with about eight million people previously covered by the defunct NHIF.

The authority has processed nearly 7.9 million claims, while billions of shillings have been paid out to support patients receiving medical services. The programme has also facilitated more than 48,000 cancer treatments, 469,000 surgeries and 1.24 million safe deliveries.

Duale said the reforms were designed to ensure that Kenyans do not miss out on essential healthcare because of an inability to pay at the point of service.

Under the Primary Healthcare Fund, registered Kenyans can access services at Level 2, 3 and 4 health facilities without making payments at the point of care.

The government is also relying on community-based healthcare to strengthen preventive and primary care.

More than 107,000 Community Health Promoters (CHPs) have been recruited and are supported through 277 Primary Care Networks across the country.

The CHPs are expected to deliver preventive, promotive and basic healthcare services closer to households, helping identify health challenges before they develop into more serious conditions.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE A PHYSICAL PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGNS AND SUPERVISION OF WORKS, EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS AND USERS FOR THE PROPOSED CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING AT MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING AT MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0001

PROJECT:	SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PHASE II
SECTOR:	EDUCATION
PROJECT ID NO.:	P-KE-IA0-003
FINANCING AGREEMENT REFERENCE:	ADF NO. 2100150045045

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the African Development Fund (ADF) towards the implementation of the Support to Higher Education, Science and Technology (HEST) Phase II Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this Loan to payments under the contract for consultancy services to undertake a physical plan, architectural and engineering designs and supervision of works, equipment installation, testing, commissioning and training of technicians and users for the proposed centers of excellence in industrial engineering at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology and electrical & electronics engineering at Meru University of Science and Technology

The services included in this project are to provide multidisciplinary professional consultancy services for the planning, design, procurement support and implementation supervision of the proposed engineering laboratories and workshops to ensure the delivery of high-quality, functional and sustainable facilities that meet international standards for engineering education, research and innovation.

The services to be provided under the assignment include:

a) Undertaking an audit and detailed needs assessment of infrastructure and equipment in the proposed CoE areas, as well as comparative analysis of similar CoEs to identify and address local gaps and prepare designs
b) Preparing sustainability and business plans/Investment plans for the CoE
c) Developing a Physical Plan for all engineering buildings, workshops, laboratories and auxiliary infrastructure and facilities;
d) Evaluating the equipment prioritized by the University in terms of costing, compatibility with other existing equipment and gaps that may exist and include the existing equipment in the CoE.
e) Developing purpose oriented architectural and engineering designs of the workshops and laboratories based on the equipment specific needs to optimally operate, such as equipment dimensions, power ratings, space requirement, installation environment needs, among other critical considerations in the operation of the equipment.
f) Preparation of bid documents for the construction and equipping of the CoE.
g) Supervising the construction, equipment installation, testing and commissioning.
h) Reviewing and providing detailed equipment specifications, pricing and plans for the procurement, installation, testing, commissioning, training, operation and management of the equipment, workshops and laboratories.
i) Supervising training of staff in the operation, maintenance and management of the CoEs.

The consultancy is expected to be undertaken over an estimated period of **thirty (30) months**, comprising the two implementation phases **(Phase I activities is 2 months, while Phase II is 24 months)**

The State Department for Higher Education now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services **(brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.).** Consultants may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's 'Procurement Policy for the Bank Group funded Operations' dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at **http://www.afdb.org.**

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from **0800 to 1700 hours**, from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour **(1300 to 1400Hrs)** and public holidays

Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below on or before **7th September, 2026** at **1100 EAT** marked: **"CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE A PHYSICAL PLAN, ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING DESIGNS AND SUPERVISION OF WORKS, EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS AND USERS FOR THE PROPOSED CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE IN INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING AT MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND ELECTRICAL & ELECTRONICS ENGINEERING AT MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0001"**

Attn: Deputy Director, Supply Chain Management Services
State Department for Higher Education
8th Floor, Jogoo House B
Room 807
P.O. Box 9583 – 00200 Nairobi
Telephone: +254 020 318581
Tel/Fax: 254 020 2251991
NAIROBI, KENYA

E-mail: sduerprocurement@gmail.com

KENYA VISION 2030

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR BUSINESS CASE DEVELOPMENT AND INSTITUTIONALIZATION MODELLING AND MARKETING OF THE NATIONAL PHYSICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH LABORATORIES (NPSRL)- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0005

PROJECT:	SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PHASE II
SECTOR:	EDUCATION
PROJECT ID NO.:	P-KE-IA0-003
FINANCING AGREEMENT REFERENCE:	ADF NO. 2100150045045

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the African Development Fund (ADF) towards the implementation of the Support to Higher Education, Science and Technology (HEST) Phase II Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this Loan to payments under the contract for consultancy services for business case development and institutionalization modelling and marketing of the National Physical Science Research laboratories. The National Physical Science Research Laboratories (NPSRL) at Konza Technopolis, is envisioned to be a world-class research facility supporting scientific excellence, innovation, industrial competitiveness and sustainable economic growth.

The services included under this project are to develop a comprehensive, evidence-based and bankable Business Case, Institutionalisation Framework and Commercialisation Strategy that will guide the establishment, operationalisation and long-term sustainability of the National Physical Science Research Laboratories.

The services to be provided under the assignment include:

i) Undertake a market assessment and demand analysis to determine current and future demand for research, testing, calibration, certification, innovation, technology development, and related scientific services in the country and the region;
ii) Develop a comprehensive, evidence-based and bankable Business Case and Business Plan for the establishment, operationalization, growth, and long-term sustainability of the NPSRL, including technical, economic, financial, institutional, and socio-economic justification.
iii) Carry out a national needs assessment of associated laboratory facilities and make a detailed list of each laboratory equipment and tentative costs.
iv) Carry out international comparative analysis of successful institutional models of national laboratories and research institute, which may include but not limited to Europe, North America, South Asia and South Africa in the three priority areas and detail capacity gaps and capacity-building plans;
v) Develop an institutionalization model providing a governance framework, organization structure, operationalization and sustainability framework of the laboratories covering organizational architecture, staffing requirements, talent development, laboratory operations, quality management systems, accreditation pathways, digital transformation, and performance management systems.
vi) Develop the marketing model showcasing market segmentation, branding and positioning of the laboratories, service marketing strategy, communication strategy and partnership/client engagement strategy
vii) Develop a comprehensive innovation, commercialization and technology transfer framework to facilitate research commercialization, industrial partnerships, incubation, licensing, venture creation, and enterprise development business model for each of the laboratories
viii) Develop financial and business models that incorporate diversified funding sources, revenue-generation mechanisms, cost-recovery systems, investment requirements, financial projections, and long-term sustainability scenarios.
ix) Identify and onboard first clients of the laboratories and identify strategic partnerships
x) Work with the design consultant to inform design review of the laboratories
xi) Formulate a stakeholder engagement, partnership development, to strengthen collaboration among government, academia, industry, development partners, investors, and international research networks.
xii) Develop a comprehensive sustainability framework that ensures NPSRL remains financially viable, institutionally resilient, technologically relevant, internationally accredited, and responsive to emerging scientific, industrial, and national development priorities.

The consultancy is expected to be undertaken over a period of **Six (6) months**

The State Department for Higher Education now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services **(brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.)**. Consultants may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's 'Procurement Policy for the Bank Group funded Operations' dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at **http://www.afdb.org**.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from **0800 to 1700 hours**, from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour **(1300 to 1400Hrs)** and public holidays

Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below on or before **7th September 2026 at 1100 EAT** marked: **"CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR BUSINESS CASE DEVELOPMENT AND INSTITUTIONALIZATION MODELLING AND MARKETING OF THE NATIONAL PHYSICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH LABORATORIES (NPSRL)- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0005"**

Attn: Deputy Director, Supply Chain Management Services
State Department for Higher Education
8th Floor, Jogoo House B, Room 807
P.O. Box 9583 – 00200 Nairobi
Telephone: +254 020 318581
Tel/Fax: 254 020 2251991
NAIROBI, KENYA

E-mail: sduerprocurement@gmail.com

KENYA VISION 2030

Mombasa County launch Sh50-million pediatric theatre

BY RAMADHAN NASSIB (KNA)

Coast General Teaching and Referral Hospital (CGTRH) has unveiled a new, fully equipped pediatric operating theatre, in a Sh50 million partnership between the County Government of Mombasa and international charity Kids Operating Room (KidsOR).

The move is aimed at expanding access to safe and specialised surgery for children across the coast region.

Speaking during the launch, Mombasa Governor Abdulswamad Sharif Nassir said the facility, fitted with the innovative solar surgery technology to guard against power outages during operations, was part of a broader push to make quality healthcare accessible to every child in the county regardless of a family's ability to pay.

"The county government made a deliberate decision that no child under five should go untreated because of a parent's lack of finances. When a parent walks in with their child, we register the parent and pay for the child, and where the premiums are not enough, the county takes over the remaining bill," Nassir said.

The Governor said the investment, which covers equipment and three years of maintenance support, would significantly boost the hospital's capacity to handle complex pediatric cases adding that KidsOR's global work across 40 countries has already created surgical capacity for nearly 200,000 children annually.

He linked the theatre unveiling to wider county reforms in health, including a digitisation drive expected to roll out by September to cut patient waiting times, and the deployment of over 2,500 Community Health Promoters who visit households to support early diagnosis and treatment.

Governor Nassir added that the county was also sponsoring Social Health Authority (SHA) premiums for residents who cannot afford them, through the Facility Improvement Fund.

The Governor said the county was also renovating the entire hospital, from wards to sanitation facilities, ahead of plans to add more operating theatres.

"Health is not a privilege for the rich. Health should be universal, as envisioned in the Constitution," said Nassir.

KidsOR Chief Executive David Cunningham said the charity, which supports pediatric theatres in 140 hospitals worldwide, selects partner hospitals based on the quality of local medical teams, which he said Mombasa has in abundance.

"I heard this morning about one of the first patients whose life was saved because of the equipment. A small child who had a foreign object stuck in their airway when the power went out. Because the solar surgery system was in place, that child's life was saved," said Cunningham, describing it as the first of many lives the unit would save.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE A UNIVERSITY COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION AND TRAINING FRAMEWORK- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0004

PROJECT:	SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PHASE II
SECTOR:	EDUCATION
PROJECT ID NO.:	P-KE-IA0-003
FINANCING AGREEMENT REFERENCE:	ADF NO. 2100150045045

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the African Development Fund (ADF) towards the implementation of the Support to Higher Education, Science and Technology (HEST) Phase II Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this Loan to payments under the contract for consultancy services to undertake a university competency-based education and training framework

The services to be included under this project are to support the Commission for University Education in the review, validation, development, implementation and operationalization of a University Competence-Based Education (CBE) Framework in Kenya that enhances quality, relevance, employability, innovation capacity and industry responsiveness of university education.

1. The services to be provided under the assignment include:

- i. Evaluate the draft framework of university education developed by CUE, current basic education framework and National skills demands and global best practices to identify areas and gaps for alignment with CBE
- ii. Identify and engage relevant stakeholders in the design and validation of the framework
- iii. Assess the existing university education and training systems in relation to competence-based education principles, industry needs, national qualification frameworks and global best practices.
- iv. Develop comprehensive guidelines for competency-based curriculum development and review, encompassing curriculum design and delivery; teaching and learning; assessment; quality assurance; competency development; modularization; experiential learning; digital learning integration; flexible learning pathways; and other innovative approaches.
- v. Harmonize the framework with national, regional and international education and qualification standards to support accreditation, quality assurance and academic mobility.
- vi. Undertake individual university readiness detailed assessment and recommend capacity-building measures to implement CBE.
- vii. Support the review and alignment of all university programmes with labor market demands and national development priorities.
- viii. Define graduate competency profiles and learning outcomes for all academic programmes and disciplines in line with industry and professional standards.
- ix. Build capacity of the key drivers of university education CBE
- x. Firm-up the implementation matrix and the key milestones/ indicators
- xi. Develop implementation, monitoring and evaluation parameters and strategies for the rollout and continuous improvement of the CBE framework within universities.
- xii. Provide policy, institutional and financial needs recommendations for sustainable adoption and operationalization of competence-based education in universities, and
- xiii. Develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials for the framework

The assignment is expected to be undertaken over a period of **twelve (12) months**.

The State Department for Higher Education now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's 'Procurement Policy for the Bank Group funded Operations'" dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at **http://www.afdb.org.**

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from **0800 to 1700 hours**, from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour **(1300 to 1400Hrs)** and public holidays

Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below on or before **7th September 2026 at 1100 EAT** marked: **"CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO UNDERTAKE A UNIVERSITY COMPETENCY-BASED EDUCATION AND TRAINING FRAMEWORK- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0004"**

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KENYA VISION 2030

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES)

CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO DEVELOP EQUIPMENT CATALOGUE, REVIEW WORKSHOPS & LABORATORIES DESIGNS, SPECIFICATIONS FOR STEM EQUIPMENT, SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS, EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING- REOI NO: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0003

PROJECT:	SUPPORT TO HIGHER EDUCATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PHASE II
SECTOR:	EDUCATION
PROJECT ID NO.:	P-KE-IA0-003
FINANCING AGREEMENT REFERENCE:	ADF NO. 2100150045045

The Government of the Republic of Kenya has received financing from the African Development Fund (ADF) towards the implementation of the Support to Higher Education, Science and Technology (HEST) Phase II Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this Loan to payments under the contract for Consultancy services to develop equipment catalogue, review workshops & laboratories designs, specifications for stem equipment, supervision of construction works, equipment installation, testing, commissioning and training for fourteen HEST II project beneficiary universities.

The services included under this project are to provide specialized technical and professional services that will ensure procurement and installation of appropriate, high-quality and sustainable STEM equipment aligned with institutional needs, curriculum requirements and international standards. The Consultant will also support the review of laboratory and workshop facilities, recommend necessary infrastructure improvements, supervise installation and commissioning activities, and facilitate capacity building for end users to ensure effective utilization of the equipment.

The services to be provided under the assignment include:

- a) Undertaking a detailed assessment of STEM equipment needs in HEST II beneficiary universities
- b) Review STEM equipment needs and develop an equipment catalogue based on subject matter specialist feedback in ensuring practical relevance and institutional ownership.
- c) Review the submitted equipment technical specifications, budgets, accessories and software required in view of the actual needs and identified gaps of individual institutions to ensure quality, sustainability and maintainability, while also considering local service availability and spare parts support
- d) Standardize specifications across institutions of related equipment and equipment functions, interoperability and ensure compliance with international and national quality standards, environmental safety regulations and manufacturer guidelines.
- e) Update standard equipment lists for laboratories and workshops by discipline and level and organize the equipment needs by discipline/ function/ workshop and identify and flag equipment that may be outdated, underutilized or redundant.
- f) Develop technical specifications and Bills of quantities (BoQs) for procurement packages, tender evaluation criteria and supplier qualification requirements, including review of BoQs for altered equipment spaces.
- g) Review the cost estimates of the reviewed equipment list in consultation with the users to ensure technical value and recommend any better alternatives including considerations for modular or multi-function equipment.
- h) Provide technical assistance in the procurement process
- i) Coordinate supplier factory inspections, supervise installation, commissioning and training of users

The assignment shall be implemented in two phases over an estimated period of **30 months**.

The State Department for Higher Education now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may constitute joint ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's 'Procurement Policy for the Bank Group funded Operations' dated October 2015, which is available on the Bank's website at **http://www.afdb.org.**

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from **0800 to 1700 hours**, from Monday to Friday excluding lunch hour (1300 to 1400Hrs) and public holidays

Consultant will be selected in accordance with the Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Expressions of Interest must be delivered to the address below on or before **7th September 2026 at 1100 EA**T marked: **"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO DEVELOP EQUIPMENT CATALOGUE, REVIEW WORKSHOPS & LABORATORIES DESIGNS, SPECIFICATIONS FOR STEM EQUIPMENT, SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS, EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION, TESTING, COMMISSIONING AND TRAINING: MOE/SDHE/HEST/0003"**

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NAIROBI, KENYA
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KENYA VISION 2030

How a Kisumu group turns waste into wealth

BY DOROTHY PAMELLA (KNA)

Artisans at Wolf Arts World assemble a lounge set from recycled vehicle tyres, showcasing innovative reuse of waste materials into durable and stylish furniture.

Every Saturday at dawn, while most of Kisumu is still asleep, a different kind of activity begins on the waters of Lake Victoria. Instead of casting fishing nets, a group of young men and women steers small boats across the lake, collecting plastic bottles, worn-out tyres, water hyacinth and other floating waste. What they gather is not destined for a dumpsite, but for a workshop where it is transformed into furniture, home décor and a dependable source of livelihood.

For the past decade, 34-year-old Raymond Odhiambo has led this transformation through Wolf Arts World Community-Based Organisation (CBO), a Kisumu-based environmental enterprise tackling pollution in Africa's largest freshwater lake while creating jobs for women and youth. What many consider worthless rubbish has become the raw material that sustains the organisation, supports dozens of families and demonstrates that environmental conservation can also be a profitable venture.

Each Saturday, Odhiambo and his team head into the lake equipped with boats, pangas, knives and protective gear to harvest invasive water hyacinth and reeds while removing plastic bottles, polythene bags, discarded clothes, tyres, jerrycans and other floating waste that clogs the lake and threatens aquatic life. The collected materials are ferried back to the organisation's workshop, where they are sorted, cleaned and processed before being transformed into marketable products displayed in its Kisumu showroom.

"Every Saturday, we harvest water hyacinth and reeds and collect floating solid waste from the lake. We then process the materials into different products before displaying them in our showroom," says Odhiambo.

The journey began in 2015 when Odhiambo established Wolf Arts Kisumu as a small social enterprise driven by his passion for environmental conservation. Over the years, it has grown into Wolf Arts World CBO, a registered community organisation whose activities now extend beyond Kisumu into neighbouring Siaya County. With a background in Social Work and Community Development, Odhiambo says the organisation was founded to address pollution while creating dignified economic opportunities for communities living around Lake Victoria.

"We work with women and youth around the lake who previously depended on odd jobs to survive. Today they earn an income while helping conserve the environment," he explains.

The clean-up exercises have steadily attracted women engaged in fish trading and young people from informal settlements such as Nyalenda, Obunga and Manyatta. According to Odhiambo, harvesting water hyacinth requires determination more than specialised skills, making it accessible to many.

"People only need guidance. Many women who trade in fish now join us during clean-up exercises," he says.

The conservation message is gradually spreading through the communities, with some residents now collecting recyclable materials independently before notifying the organisation to pick them up. In return, they receive a small stipend, creating both environmental awareness and an additional income stream.

Treasury to improve tracking of development partner funds

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A (KNA)

The National Treasury is rolling out a new digital system aimed at giving the Government a clearer and more reliable picture of development partner resources flowing into Kenya.

The Development Partners Management Information System (DPMIS) will be launched before the end of the year and will provide consolidated information on development partners supporting Kenya, the programmes they are funding, where resources are being directed, amounts committed and funds actually disbursed.

The system is expected to strengthen Government coordination of development assistance while improving accountability and ensuring external support is better aligned with national development priorities.

Principal Secretary for the National Treasury, Dr Chris Kiptoo, directed officials to prioritise data quality, timeliness, completeness and coverage, while strengthening institutional mechanisms for the timely reporting, validation and coordination of development partner information.

Principal Secretary for the National Treasury, Dr Chris Kiptoo speaking when he chaired a meeting of Heads of Departments that received an update on progress towards the development and operationalisation of the Development Partners Management Information System (DPMIS).

Once operational, DPMIS is expected to provide the Government with more accurate information for planning, oversight and decision-making. It will also offer a stronger basis for assessing how development partner resources are contributing to Kenya's national development priorities.

The system is intended to go beyond serving as a repository of information. The Treasury says it will transform development finance data into actionable intelligence, enabling the Government to identify gaps, reduce duplication and improve coordination of development assistance.

The initiative comes as the Government seeks to strengthen oversight of development resources and ensure that funds provided by development partners complement rather than duplicate existing Government programmes.

Treasury officials say better tracking and use of development finance data will ultimately support more effective allocation of resources and improve development outcomes for Kenyans.

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Nakuru bets big on sports tourism

I urge more businesses and institutions to support sporting events that can attract visitors to the county

BY JEFTHER SIMEON AFUYO AND ESTHER MWANGI (KNA)

Boxers participate in an inter-club boxing tournament at Ziwani Market in Nakuru, as the county promotes sports as a tourism and youth empowerment product.

The County Government of Nakuru is positioning sports as a tourism product in a bid to attract visitors, support local businesses and create opportunities for young people.

The strategy combines grassroots sporting events with tourism promotion to increase visitor spending and strengthen Nakuru's position as a destination for sports and leisure.

The approach was demonstrated during an inter-club boxing tournament held at Ziwani Market.

Tourism Officer Eric Muriuki said sporting events create economic opportunities beyond the competition venues.

He said athletes, fans, officials and other visitors spend money on accommodation, food, transport and other services.

Muriuki emphasized that sporting events attract athletes, fans, officials and visitors, creating business opportunities for hotels, restaurants, transport providers and local traders.

"I urge more businesses and institutions to support sporting events that can attract visitors to the county," he said.

The tournament also incorporated anti-doping education to promote clean sport and responsible sporting careers.

Winners received certificates recognising their performances during the competition.

The county is also preparing to expand its sports tourism offering through the inaugural Nakuru County Governor's Cup.

Grassroots consultations for the 2026 tournament have now concluded following final engagements in Njoro and Molo Sub-Counties.

The consultations brought together football stakeholders, teams, youth representatives and local leaders.

They focused on inclusive participation, grassroots football structures and preparations for the tournament.

The Governor's Cup is expected to provide another platform for visitors to experience Nakuru through sport.

It will also create opportunities to identify and nurture football talent from the county's wards.

The strategy identifies sports and adventure activities among Kenya's potential niche tourism products.

Kenya Tourism Board has similarly expanded its sports tourism approach through mountain and trail-running events.

The board says the initiative aims to position Kenya as a sports and adventure destination.

The economic opportunity is significant. The World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) estimates that Travel and Tourism contributed Sh1.6 trillion ($12.7 billion US dollars) to Kenya's economy in 2025. The sector represented 9.3 per cent of GDP and supported 1.8 million jobs. International visitors spent about Ksh646.8 billion Kenya Shillings ($5 billion US dollars), while domestic visitors spent Ksh582.12 billion Kenya Shillings ($4.5 billion US dollars).

BRIEFS

Kenya plans to manufacture electric BRT buses

BY JOSEPH NG'ANG'A (KNA)

The Government is positioning Kenya as a regional hub to manufacture and assemble electric Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) buses.

The aim is to drive sustainable urban mobility, industrialisation, create jobs and locally add value.

The initiative brings together government, industry and development partners to unlock Kenya's existing manufacturing capacity and strengthen the country's automotive value chain.

To advance the plan, the State Department for Roads organised a multi-stakeholder engagement forum in Nairobi to assess Kenya's capacity and readiness for the manufacture and assembly of electric BRT buses.

Road's Principal Secretary Eng. Joseph Mbugua noted that the assessment follows 36 industrial visits conducted by a technical working committee, which established significant local capacity in vehicle assembly, body building and the manufacture of key components including steel, rubber and cables.

The PS said the government will leverage the findings and stakeholder feedback to strengthen the investment environment, promote localization and support the development of sustainable public transport through a whole-of-government approach.

He also highlighted Kenya's ongoing efforts to align its vehicle regulations with global standards through the World Forum for Harmonization of Vehicle Regulations (WP.29), noting that this will enhance the country's ability to participate in and benefit from global automotive value chains.

He said the Roads Mechanical and Transport Division (MTD) plays a vital role in this initiative through vehicle standardization and technical advice on mechanical and automotive engineering.

Present was Principal Secretary for Industry, Dr. Juma Mukhwana, the NAMATA Director General Eng. Francis Gitau, alongside development partners and stakeholders from the manufacturing sector.

Local community to protect Saboti Forest

BY ISAIAH NAYIKA,KNA

The National Government has struck a deal with communities living near Saboti Forest in a bid to protect it.

The agreement is expected to curb deforestation, with the communities being allowed to plant trees and undertake other activities meant to reestablish the forest's glory.

Trans Nzoia County Commissioner Hussein Allasow Hussein, bemoaned massive deforestation activities in the forest.

He challenged communities living near the forest to walk the talk and ensure the forest is protected fully

The agreement was struck after Allasow had led the County Security team to tour Mukunga Section of Saboti Forest, where unknown individuals had deforested the area massively.

He warned that the government will not tolerate any further destruction of the forest, insisting that police have launched investigations in the incident.

"As a government we are not going to watch as this important water tower is brought down. For this reason, we are here to engage the community who are important stakeholders," he said.

Allasow warned that if the destruction continues, the government will consider declaring the forest a no go zone where all human activities will be stopped.

"Moving forward, if this does not stop, we will decide to ban all human activities in the forest including grazing of animals," he warned.

He said the government is willing to listen and ensure an amicable solution is found to all land disputes which may exist.

Present was Trans Nzoia County Forest Conservator Joseph Mbugua who welcomed the deal saying that unlawful cutting down of trees has been a major challenge the department has been facing in the region. Led by their spokesperson John Ngeywo, the communities vowed to join hands with the government to protect the forest.

Over 500 Teso North youth to receive digital skills training

Graduates display their International Digital Literacy Certification (IDLC) certificates after completing the International Digital Skills Course at Chemasiri Technical and Vocational College (TVC). Photo by Moses Wekesa

BY MOSES WEKESA (KNA)

More than 500 youth from Teso North will benefit from a fully sponsored International Digital Skills Course (IDSC) aimed at equipping them with practical digital competencies.

The course will also prepare them for opportunities in the growing digital economy.

Sponsored by the Teso North National Government Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF), cohorts of about 100 learners, with each training cycle lasting approximately two months will be trained. The first cohort of 82 learners has successfully completed the course and graduated with the International Digital Literacy Certification (IDLC).

The training is conducted by Digital Acumen Labs in partnership with Ajira Digital through the Jitume Digital Lab at Chemasiri Technical and Vocational College (TVC).

Speaking during the graduation ceremony of the first cohort of the International Digital Skills Course at Chemasiri Technical and Vocational College (TVC), Teso North Member of Parliament Oku Kaunya said he would continue investing in digital literacy initiatives to ensure more young people acquire practical competencies required in today's labour market.

"Digital literacy is an essential requirement in today's world. The knowledge you have acquired will open many opportunities," he said.

Kaunya said the initiative forms part of the constituency's broader strategy to empower young people with market-driven competencies that will enable them to secure jobs, establish businesses and contribute to Kenya's digital transformation.

Digital Acumen Labs representative Calvin Opicho said the curriculum was developed after identifying a significant gap between social media use and actual digital competence among many young people.

"Many young people assume they are digitally literate simply because they use social media platforms. This course goes beyond that by equipping them with practical competencies that can be applied in the workplace and converted into income through online opportunities," he said.

Opicho said the initiative is helping bridge the digital divide by exposing youth from rural communities to practical digital competencies that prepare them for the rapidly evolving world of work.

The Coordinator of the International Digital Skills Course, Isaac Masake, called on government agencies, political leaders, development partners and the private sector to invest more in digital infrastructure and advanced training programmes to prepare young people for technology-driven opportunities.