

MAY 13- MAY 19 2023

## KEWI to Train 324 Utility Staff on Non-Revenue Water Reduction



KEWI Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule(4th right), with officers from KEWI, NCWSC, AWWDA and AFD.

BY PIUS KIMANI

**K**enya Water Institute (KEWI) and Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company LTD (NCWSC) are in the final stages of formalizing a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) that will see KEWI offer training on Non Revenue Water (NRW) reduction to management and staff of the water utility.

The water utility company charged with the responsibility of providing and managing

water and sewerage services in Nairobi seeks to have 121 participants at management level and 221 participants at general staff level.

The Non Revenue Water trainings which will be conducted in 3 levels and funded through the Nairobi Water and Sanitation Project (NWSP) are as a result of facilitation from the water utility company asset holding body, Athi Water Works Development Agency (AWWDA) which has

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 1 KEWI to train 324 utility staff on non-revenue water reduction.
- 3 CEO Closes a 4 Day New Students Induction Exercise
- 4 Institute Lauds Ministry Intervention Strategies
- 7 KEWI Kitui Campus Samples Infrastructural Goodies.

## KEWI to Train 324 Utility Staff on Non-Revenue Water Reduction

received funds from Agence Francaise de Development (French Development Agency) AFD, towards the cost of this project. Parts of the proceeds of these funds have been committed for eligible payments to KEWI towards this training and certification.

While addressing a team of officers drawn from the 3 organizations, KEWI's Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule reiterated the Institutes commitments towards giving quality training, meeting and exceeding the expectations set out in the agreement.

"We shall ensure that KEWI gives back value for money towards this project," he said.

Once formalized, the MOU will see the 121 management level staff of Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company Ltd take a 5 days training in 4 groups of approximate 30 participants each. The trainings are scheduled to take place at Kenya School of Government (KSG), Embu Campus.

For this level of training to run efficiently, KEWI has sought an array of critical data for training preparations. Such data, which KEWI has proposed to be backdated from January 2021 to December 2022, include monthly customer meter readings, account names and numbers, meter serial numbers, previous meter readings, billing



consumptions, estimated or account status both disconnected and active and monthly water production volumes.

The second level which will be a hands-on-training will be conducted both in classroom and on-the-job. This level targets 221 general staff who will undergo 5 days intensive classroom training in 7 groups of approximate 30 participants at KEWI Nairobi Campus.

The same participants in the same groupings will undertake 6 days field on-job trainings at Embu Water and Sanitation Company Ltd (EWASCO).

The course coordinator Mr. Walter Moseti, a seasoned and competent Non-Revenue Water officer from KEWI hinted that the engagement will be dynamic and the benefits will be far-reaching.

"Our previous similar engagements with other utility companies have yielded very impressive

outcomes. We believe that by the end of the training, we shall have provided you with tools that will help you address the commercial losses occasioned by non revenue water," he echoed.

By the end of the 5 day training, the management level staff will be efficient enough to apply key tools used to manage NRW as developed in addressing such at utility levels.

The training will help the managers and directors address key elements of their licences such as Meter Reading Data and Billing Analysis, Universal NRW Monitoring Sheets, use of Kobo Toolbox among others. This is as entailed in the newly reviewed Non-Revenue Water Gridlines in Kenya.

The 221 staff are expected to manage physical water losses, undertake leakage preventions work, undertake leakage survey methods and use water meter test bench etc.

## CEO Closes a 4 Day New Students Induction Exercise



*New students keenly listen as the CEO addresses them during the closing ceremony of their 4 day induction .*

BY: PIUS KIMANI

**K**enya Water Institute's Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule embraced the newest students, inspiring them to embark on a transformative educational experience. The CEO acknowledged the students' choice for selecting KEWI as their training destination and also their parents and guardians for allowing and sponsoring them to come to KEWI.

"Our institute is firmly committed to offering exceptional training that equips you with skills and knowledge you need." Dr. Letangule assured the students as he presided over the end of the

students' orientation.

In his address, Dr. Letangule stressed that there are opportunities in the water sector and therefore the students should take up the opportunity of their studies to grow and build their careers.

The Deputy Director Corporate Service, Mr. Eric Wamiti requested the students to go out on their ways and apply for Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and NG-CDF funds. He assured the students that plans are underway to help beef up on the funds. This will critically help in settling their school fees.

The Senior Principal Registrar, Mr. Henry Kobia

urged the students to familiarize themselves well with KEWI environment, join various clubs in the institute and also participate in Kenya Technical Sports Association (KETISA) which are held in every semester. He also mentioned on the importance of the Student's Constitution that governs the student life.



# Institute Lauds Ministry Intervention Strategies



*Dr. Letangule drives home the importance of ministry support during a meeting at KEWI Boardroom*

was slicing off the strategic role the institute was intended for, making it not discharge its mandate in a manner that it's expected.

Dr. Letangule termed the ministry's intervention as timely as this will make a turnaround on service delivery

BY: DORINE EVA

**K**enya Water Institute (KEWI) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule welcomed the move by the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation to make deliberate interventions that aim at raising the status of the Institute.

In a meeting with the Projects and Strategy advisor to the Ministry, Mr. Ismael Chemjor and KEWI management at the institute, Dr. Letangule optimistically noted that with the deliberate commitments coming from the ministry, the institute was keen to engage on its overdrive gear to strongly assert its position as a powerhouse in training and capacity building for the water sector in Kenya.

While enumerating the

challenges that have dogged the institute thus hampering the pace of its growth, the CEO noted that the institute was also keen to revitalize its governance system, infrastructure, policies and curriculum so as to offer timely responses to demands in the market.

"KEWI is keen in improving on its professional development courses so that it can be able to address emerging gaps in the wider water sector," he said.

Dr. Letangule who is keen to spearhead radical changes in the Institute to raise its bar sadly noted that there has been an encroachment of the strategic mandate that KEWI is supposed to serve by other organizations. This, he said,

and market position for the institute whose core mandate is training and capacity building for the wider water sector.

Dr. Letangule said that the institute was keen to address the current status and noted that the review of the KEWI Act that seeks to transform the institute into a more responsive centre of training and research was on course. He said once enacted, the act will help the institute address specific challenges and place the institute at its much preferred place in the ministry.

## Empowering progress: Ministry backs the Institute's Capacity Building endeavours



*Dr. Leiro Letangule and Mr. Ismael Chemjor during a meeting at KEWI Boardroom*

BY: DORINE EVA

The government is keen in making deliberate efforts to help Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) gain more traction in the water sector and take a centre stage position in capacity building, new innovations and current technologies that address market-driven demands

While delivering a message on intent of deeper collaborations between the Institute and the ministry to KEWI Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule, Projects and Strategy advisor to the ministry Mr. Ismael Chemjor expressed the ministry's keenness in seeing the institute become a household partner in projects the ministry will be

rolling out, engaging in or consulting for. This will go a long way in bridging the gap to modern technologies.

Mr. Chemjor said the ministry was committed to help the institute escalate its fundraising status by seeking funding that would be used to help address specific challenges within the institute from partners. He stated the need to tap on the benefits of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) models of engagement as this will address the capitation shortages occasioned by low funding from the exchequer. In this, Mr. Chemjor said that the institute would immensely benefit from the non-

traditional fundraising mechanisms that would see it address specific challenges that would contribute towards solving a larger problem.

Towards this Mr. Chemjor informed Dr. Letangule of the recently struck deal between the ministry and the Slovak Republic where the Central European country is set to begin its maiden collaborations in the areas of Water for Gender Equality, Water Catchment Protection and Rehabilitation and Capacity Building and Education Support. Here, Mr. Chemjor informed the CEO that KEWI featured extensively in the discussion, with areas of technology, curriculum

## Empowering progress: Ministry backs the Institute's Capacity Building endeavours

featured extensively in the discussion, with areas of technology, curriculum development and climate change coming out strongly as possible areas of partnership.

Dr. Letangule welcomed the move and the goodwill message noting that this will make KEWI take its strategic position in the water sector and

grow significantly to address real time challenges affecting the water industry. He committed to work around a draft that will help initiate a conversation of funding and more possible areas of partnership.

Mr. Chemjor brought to the knowledge of the CEO a plan to have some funds paid into a centralized basket from large infrastructural projects the ministry was carrying out and asked him to engage closely with the ministry so as to see on how KEWI can benefit from such funds. Such funds would be used for capacity building and training, a position KEWI stands to benefit from.



*Ismael Chemjor on the Ministry's support to KEWI*

The ministry was also keen to spearhead technology transfer by having KEWI staff partner with the implementers of large projects within the ministry. This would enhance the continuity and sustainability of such projects

The two agreed that there was a need for proper end-to-end fundraising strategy that seeks to address linkages and specific gaps within KEWI. Mr. Chemjor visit comes at a time when the CEO is looking forward to a consultative meeting with the Cabinet Secretary

for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Hon. Alice Wahome to discuss the status of KEWI and what is ought to be done to address the challenges its going through.





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## Round Up of the Week's Events



*Farewell to orientation:  
Embracing New begin-  
nings for KEWI new stu-*

## Round Up of the Week's Events



*KEWI receives support for Non-Revenue water management training.*

*Empowering progress: Ministry backs the Institute's Capacity Building endeavours.*



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