

August 26 -September 01, 2023

## KEWI Rides on the Goodwill of the Ministry as PS Visits



*Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation Dr. Kipronoh Ronoh (seated center) with members of the Governing Council at KEWI Main Campus.*

BY PIUS KIMANI

Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation Dr. Kipronoh Ronoh has challenged Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) leadership to take advantage of the institute's uniqueness in terms of capacity building for professionals in water sector to reap maximum benefits for itself and in the process deliver on its core mandate of training, research and consultancy.

Addressing both the council,

management and the staff when he paid a visit to the institutes' headquarters in Nairobi, Dr. Kipronoh categorically stated that the institutes' mandate of developing the required and competent human resource capital for water sector was very unique and critical.

Noting that water is a key enabler in achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, Dr. Kipronoh challenged KEWI to work hard to propel the government's agenda on water now that the water issue is anchored in the constitution.

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# KEWI Rides on the Goodwill of the Ministry as PS Visits



*PS Dr. Kipronoh while addressing members of staff in Nairobi Campus.*

“Your role and mandate as KEWI is required more now than any other time. You stand tall and strong to support this government in moving forward the agenda for water, which is anchored in various legislative tenets like Article 43 of the Constitution, the Water Act 2016 and others.” He said.

While noting that the government was keen on rolling out an ambitious program and plan to sink 100 dams and 1000 small dams, and also drill 308,000 boreholes among other water related initiatives across the nation, Dr. Kipronoh underscored the place of KEWI in such an agenda noting that the survival of such programs depended on

the skilled workforce that KEWI is ought to produce.

He further said that mega government projects domiciled within the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation required expansive research contributions which are ought to be provided by KEWI Research Unit.

“Connecting 6 million households and 6000 schools across the country requires your trained engineers, plumbers and other professionals who are very critical in implementation of these programs.” He also asserted.

Dr. Kipronoh said that KEWI was a strategic

institution and rallied the heads of departments to lead from the front by helping in creation of courses that would project KEWI above the rest of her peers. Stating that KEWI is the only technical institute in the country training experts at the technician level on matters water, he said that the institute ought to capitalize on that market niche as it also rallies for and gets support from the ministry. He challenged the institute to expand its presence so as to widen its tentacles.

“Connecting households and schools to a systemic water network is a very busy and murky market. We need you on the ground. Expand your outreach. Have at least 8 regional campuses across the country so that you can assist us to roll out the agenda on water.” Dr. Kipronoh said.

Dr. Kipronoh hinted that the government through the ministry was dedicated to providing financial support to the institution but challenged it to explore its strengths further by creating professional courses for water sector. This, he said if done, would make KEWI the only technical institute in East and Central Africa to provide certification for water engineers at the technician level.

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“...anyone touching on water infrastructure should be a certified professional with accreditation from KEWI. I want to direct the council and the management to create such trainings, and certifications so that as we direct the government and the rest to align and get certification from KEWI before they touch any water infrastructure, you are on course in terms of providing the required trainings.” He further said.

Dr. Kipronoh noted that KEWI’s role in supporting capacity building for both national and county governments cannot be

gainsaid. He said with KEWI’s abilities in creating a course in Governance and Management of Community Water Infrastructure, the institute would not only reap big but would also boost the human resources of the devolved governments and at the same time provide the necessary systems and processes for managing such water infrastructures.

“I want KEWI to develop guidelines and programs to ensure that as we roll out the many water connectivity programs across governments, we ensure that we have a sustainable model in terms of

maintenance of the infrastructure and visionary leadership to sustain those infrastructures.” He added.

Dr. Kipronoh added that the government was rolling out mega projects and by KEWI aligning its research and consultancy aspect to that of the government, it stood to benefit immensely. He has challenged the institute to improve on its visibility by creating and rolling out programs that would enhance its outreach component.

He dared the leadership to be more specific on the kind of research they run as this would attract a diverse clientele who would consume its research and consultancy services that are more tailored to meet specific attentions.

“I expect KEWI to run more specific research programs to tap on the different programs that we are running and are intending to run. As government through the ministry, we will assist by linking you up with other international research institutions for exposure and note comparison.”

## New Faces, New beginnings: KEWI extends a Warm Welcome to New Staff



*Dr. L. Letangule (2nd right), Dr. M. Chirchir (right), Mr. N. Kwamini, (2nd left) and Mr. M. Ang'anyo (left).*

**K**enya Water Institute (KEWI) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule has rallied KEWI staff to tighten their belts and roll their sleeves further up as the journey to reclaim the institutes strategic position and glory on matters training, research and consultancy within the water sector has entered a decisive phase. This follows the institute's leadership taking deliberate steps and actions to ensure that the train that has already left the station does not derail.

While addressing the staff during the introductory ceremony of the recently recruited members of the KEWI Senior

Management, Dr. Letangule outlined a raft of initiatives and strategies that the Governing Council in conjunction with the management has taken and which are meant to re-engineer the strategic direction of the institute.

Underscoring the need to move with speed, work as a team and transform the institute, Dr. Letangule has stated that the council has already implemented a number of key measures and was pleased with the pace and direction the institutes operations were taking. He stated that the council had spearheaded a successful recruitment of criti-

cal members of staff in a bid to address the management lacuna that had persisted for time.

"...out of the strategic initiatives that the Governing Council has taken is to ensure that we recruit highly competent staff to take up positions of management...so that we bring on board a complement of staff that is able to deliver on the mandate of KEWI." He said.

Recalling a meeting he had held with the staff when he came in as the director, Dr. Letangule reminded the staff that they had a role to play to

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*Dr. Mathew K. Chirchir, Deputy Director Corporate Services.*

total failure.

“That’s not the position of KEWI and we have tasked the office of the Deputy Director Research, Consultancy and Technical Services to ensure that we enhance the performance of this institute because where we belong is not where we are and therefore we must combine our efforts to enhance our overall

complement the efforts the management was taking so that the institute can feel the effect of the wave of change that is sweeping across the institute.

Dr. Letangule recalled that the institute was performing dismally in comparison with its state corporations peers in the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation (MWSI) and that the move had to be addressed by bringing fresh minds and reigniting the working charge of the existing staff.

In the recent review of performance, KEWI was ranked position 14 out of the 17 state corporations within the ministry; something Dr. Letangule said required a serious address to avert the institute from sliding into a

performance and take KEWI to the next level.” Dr. Letangule asserted.

He has passionately urged the staff to become more responsive to the rallying call of driving the institute forward by embracing the culture of performance and productivity that his office is entrenching.

This, he said, will enhance the overall performance of the institute. He further said that the institutions was actively reaching out to and working closely with key stakeholders including the mother ministry and other development partners to enhance and tap on the benefits that come with such steps.

Dr. Letangule informed the staff that he had talked with the Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Hon. Alice Wahome and that she had promised to visit the Institute in a fortnight. This would be happening shortly after the Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation, Dr. Kipronoh Ronoh had visited and addressed KEWI staff, a move that has been hailed as a show of goodwill and support for the steps the institute is taking to enhance its service delivery.

The CEO confirmed to the staff that the management with the approval of the council had also initiated a program of reorganizing the staff.

This, he said, was basically to ensure that the institute has deployed the right people to where they would deliver. He insisted that the step was not supposed to be seen as punitive but rather as move done with the best interest of the institute.

He added that right steps irrespective of how they may be viewed will be taken in the coming days since the institution has to be positioned in a way that everyone is able to perform and meet the expectations of the special clients served by the institute and also deliver on the mandate

# New Faces, New beginnings: KEWI extends a Warm Welcome to New Staff



*Mr. Michael A. Onyango, Senior Principal Registrar.*

He said.

Dr. Letangule reassured the staff that as a team leader with deep knowledge and extensive experience in change management style of leadership, he was keen on rejuvenating the working aura of every KEWI staff so that the institute can move forward with everyone on board.

Urging the staff to deliberately make efforts of working as professionals through fighting some few negative elements like suspicions, dishonesty and pursuit of self interests

at the expense of the interests of the institute, Dr. Letangule further told the staff that he was

determined to ensure everybody was brought on board for the purposes of pursuing the institute's aspirations and agenda as a team and take it to the next level.

Dr. Letangule introduced the new batch of officers who had been recently recruited successfully to steer the functions of the institute at the management level.

He called for support from the staff towards the appointed officers for ease of service delivery.

*Compiled by The Editorial Team.*

also deliver on the mandate expectations of the institute.

been recently recruited successfully to steer the functions of the institute at the management level. He called for support from the staff towards the appointed officers for ease of service delivery.

"KEWI is a strategic national institute and we need to safeguard and protect it both individually and collectively. For this to happen, we must shun the culture of complacency and incompetence. We cannot afford to have staffs that operate like they are in the jungle. We have policies which we need to conform to so that we can all help achieve the aspirations of this institute."



*Mr. Nelson K. Makokha, Deputy Director Research Consultancy & Technical Services.*

# Chiakariga Campus Principal hosts a Sub-County Delegation



Mr. Paul Rarieya (seated 2nd left) with the sub-county delegation at Chiakariga Campus.

BY KORIR KIPKIRUI

**M**r. Paul Rarieya, the recently appointed Principal Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Chiakariga Campus has hit the ground running since he assumed his office. Mr. Rarieya who also doubles up as a Senior Lecturer had his first duty calling when hosted a Sub-county stakeholders meeting early this week at the school.

The meeting, which comes at a time when the satellite campus is seeking to build on the rising transformational goodwill from KEWI Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule, brainstormed on various areas to build on for the benefits of the institute

and the county. Topics such as student enrollment, the community's involvement and improving and fortifying inter-departmental relationships among others issues formed the core agenda of the meeting.

The meeting which was attended by Deputy County Commissioner Chiakariga Mr. Kyalo Kaloki, Officer Commanding Police Division (OCPD) Chiakariga, Mr. Bernard Ateba, Sub-County Director of Education, Mr. Peter Ithili, In charge St. Orsola Matiri Mission Hospital, Fr. Murungi, In charge Komo-rock Modern Hospital, Mr. Kelvin Mutui, In charge Chiakariga Health Center, Mr. Moris, Seventh Day

Adventist (SDA) representative and Pastor Rubucha among other leaders also discussed student safety at a time when the campus is set to admit students and the local water deficit.

Following the meeting, the principal extended a visit to Tharaka Nithi County Commissioner Wesley

Koesh where the two explored on government delivery services and resources sharing among other were intensively discussed.

Mr. Rarieya is expected to meet with the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Tharaka Nithi County, the Chief Executive Committee member (CEC) Water and Irrigation, the Managing Director (MD) Nithi Water and Sanitation Company and other stakeholders for further discussion on water challenges.

# KEWI's Innovative Spirit Shines at WorldSkills Kenya National Competition in Water Technology



*Mr. William Oduor (right), an expert in Water Technology, Mr. Walter Oswaga (2nd left), a trainer in Water Technology with KEWI competitors at the WorldSkills Kenya National Competition in Gigiri Nairobi.*

**BY WILLIAM ODUOR**– *National Expert in Water Technology.*

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) has consistently been at the forefront of Water Resource Management and Education. Recently, KEWI made waves by participating in a prestigious Water Technology Competition at the inaugural WorldSkills Kenya National Competition organized by WorldSkills Kenya through Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA).

KEWI showcased dedication to advancing innovative solutions in the field of water

water technology. The competition was held at Kenya School of TVET.

Founded with a mission to develop water professionals and promote sustainable water resource management, KEWI has become a pillar of excellence in Kenya's water sector. Its commitment to advancing knowledge and expertise in water-related fields has led to numerous successes.

Established by KEWI Act 2001, the Institute has played a pivotal role in addressing Kenya's water challenges. Its mission is to develop a highly

skilled workforce capable of managing and conserving water resources effectively. Over the years, KEWI has become a symbol of excellence in water education, attracting students from across the country and the region.

The Water Technology Competition is a platform that celebrates innovation and technical prowess in addressing water-related challenges. It brings together institutions, researchers, and professionals from around the world to showcase groundbreaking solutions that have the potential to transform the water industry.

# KEWI's Innovative Spirit Shines at WorldSkills Kenya National Competition in Water Technology

KEWI's participation in the Water Technology Competition signifies its proactive approach to embracing innovative solutions for Kenya's water challenges. The institution recognizes that technology plays a pivotal role in optimizing water management, from improving water quality to enhancing distribution systems.

The participation of KEWI in the National Skills Competition was a significant milestone. The competition, which celebrates the skills and talents of young professionals across various industries, provided an opportunity for KEWI to shine in the field of water supply and

water resources management.

At the competition, KEWI students showcased their proficiency in a range of water-related disciplines. From water quality analysis to water treatment and distribution systems, the institution's participants demonstrated their technical prowess and dedication to solving Kenya's water challenges.

KEWI displayed a variety of cutting-edge projects and solutions created by its faculty and students during the competition. These initiatives dealt with urgent water challenges such as wastewater treatment procedures, smart water metering systems, and

water purification technologies. The contributions from KEWI showed both technical innovation and a thorough comprehension of Kenya's unique water requirements.

One of the key factors contributing to KEWI's success in the competition is its dedicated team of mentors and trainers. The institution boasts a highly experienced faculty who provide hands-on training, ensuring that students not only understand the theory but also acquire practical skills.

Participation in the competition is not just about winning accolades; it's about addressing real-world challenges.

KEWI's involvement in the competition underscores its commitment to producing graduates who can contribute significantly to Kenya's water security, a critical issue in a country where access to clean and safe water is essential. As the country strives to achieve water security, KEWI stands as a testament to the vital role that education and skills development play in building a sustainable and water-secure future for Kenya.



*KEWI Student, connecting Pumping System Assessment Tool (PAST) during the WorldSkills Competition.*

# KEWI's Innovative Spirit Shines at WorldSkills Kenya National Competition in Water Technology

The Institute's participation in the competition serves as an inspiration to current and future water professionals. It highlights the importance of investing in education and training in water-related fields and demonstrates that skilled individuals can make a substantial difference in addressing water scarcity and quality issues.

The Water Technology Competition participation by KEWI has broad ramifications. In addition to raising the institution's profile on a global scale, it promotes Kenya as a centre for cutting-edge water solutions.

The competition experience gives KEWI students useful



*KEWI Student taking part in a jar test competition.*

in the water industry.

The Institute's participation in the contest demonstrates its dedication to promoting quality and innovation in the field of water technology. Institutions like KEWI are crucial in advancing development and identifying long-term solutions as Kenya continues to face issues with water availability and quality. In addition to being a source of pride for Kenya, KEWI's commitment to advancing water technology serves as a light of hope for a future with secure access to water.

skills and insights that improve their chances of landing a job

## Quote of the Week

*"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy, not on fighting the old, but on building the new."*

**-Socrates.**

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## Round Up of the Week's Events



*Principal Secretary, State Department for Water and Sanitation Dr. Kipronoh Ronoh during his visit to the institute where he toured the Institute's facilities.*

# Round Up of the Week's Events



1. Manager Internal Audit- Mr. Muhumed Buthul Shurie

2. Manager Human Resource and Administration- Ms. Naomi Jelimo

3. Principal Accountant - Ms Grace Njenga

4. Principal Human Resource and Administration Officer - Ms. Dar Nyanchoka

5. Principal Legal Officer- Mr. Brian Wechabe



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 Diploma in Irrigation and Drainage Engineering Technology (DIDET)  
 Diploma in Information Communication Technology (DICT)-KNEC  
 Diploma in Water Laboratory Technology (DWLT)  
 Certificate in Wastewater and Sanitation Engineering Technology (CWSET)  
 Certificate in Water Resources Management Technology (CWRMT)  
 Certificate in Information Communication Technology (CICT)- KNEC  
 Certificate in Water Laboratory Technology (CWLTL)  
 Certificate in Water Engineering Technology (CWET)  
 Drilling Operations and Management (DOM)  
 Plumbing and Pipe Fitting (PPF)  
 Water Operators Course (WOC) in:

- Water Supply
- Meter Reading
- Sewerage Operations

### Short - Term Programmes

Use of Earth Observation Tools and GIS for Water Resources Management  
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## Vision

A Technical Centre of Excellence in Training, Research, Innovation and Consultancy in the water, Sanitation and Irrigation Sector.

## Mission

To offer Competency-Based Training, Research, Innovation, Consultancy and Outreach Services in the Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Sector for sustainable development.

## Core Values

Good Corporate Governance  
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Innovativeness  
Inclusivity  
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