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## The Synergy Continues: KEWI Partners once more with GATSBY Africa



KEWI CEO Dr. Letangule (3rd right) and Gatsby Africa Program Director for Water Wario Bonaya (3rd left) exchange the signed agreements.

BY DORINE EVA

**K**enya Water Institute (KEWI) Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule and Mr. Wario Bonaya, Programme Director for Water, Gatsby Africa, signed a funding agreement that seeks to facilitate the establishment of a Centre of Excellence in Non-Revenue Water (NRW) training, Research, and

Innovation Water Sector at KEWI. The Grant will also see KEWI collaborate with the IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, Netherlands to help fast track the success of the partnership.

While signing the agreement at KEWI Headquarters in Nairobi, Dr. Letangule has expressed gratitude for the collaboration and pledged to take all necessary steps to assure success.

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# The Synergy Continues: KEWI Partners once more with GATSBY Africa



*Dr. Letangule signs the Grant agreement as Mr. Wario looks on.*

“KEWI takes this collaboration seriously and will fulfill its obligations and make sure this agreement succeeds. We view this as one of the attempts to create pathways and chances for greater things.

His sentiments were echoed and emphasized by the Deputy Director, Research Consultancy and Technical Services, Mr. Nelson Kwamini, who was present during the signing and who promised to carry out the agreement.

Mr. Wario praised KEWI for its continued show of will and capabilities in implementing programs between the two institutions. While referring to a previous collaboration program where KEWI worked with Gatsby Africa and trained 287 trainees from 7 water companies in the initial phase, Mr. Wario noted that KEWI showed the capacity,

eagerness, and dedication to advance the water industry's expertise. He termed the partnership as an opportunity to look across and determine how to develop skills related to managing water loss.

“As a nation, we have had to deal with the dilemma of water loss at 45% due to a multitude of

problems. These have been narrowed down to four of the factors, including human skills, management capacity, governance, (related to human factor) and investment,” he added.

He also expressed his optimism for the partnership and said that he was looking forward to full commitment to what is written down.

While anticipating that the partnership is expected to result in a significant reduction of NRW losses in the Kenyan water sector through increased awareness of the problem and through the transfer of skills and knowledge from KEWI to water utilities, he implored that signing of more agreement by April 2024 by the two partners will consequently accomplish the partnership's goal of

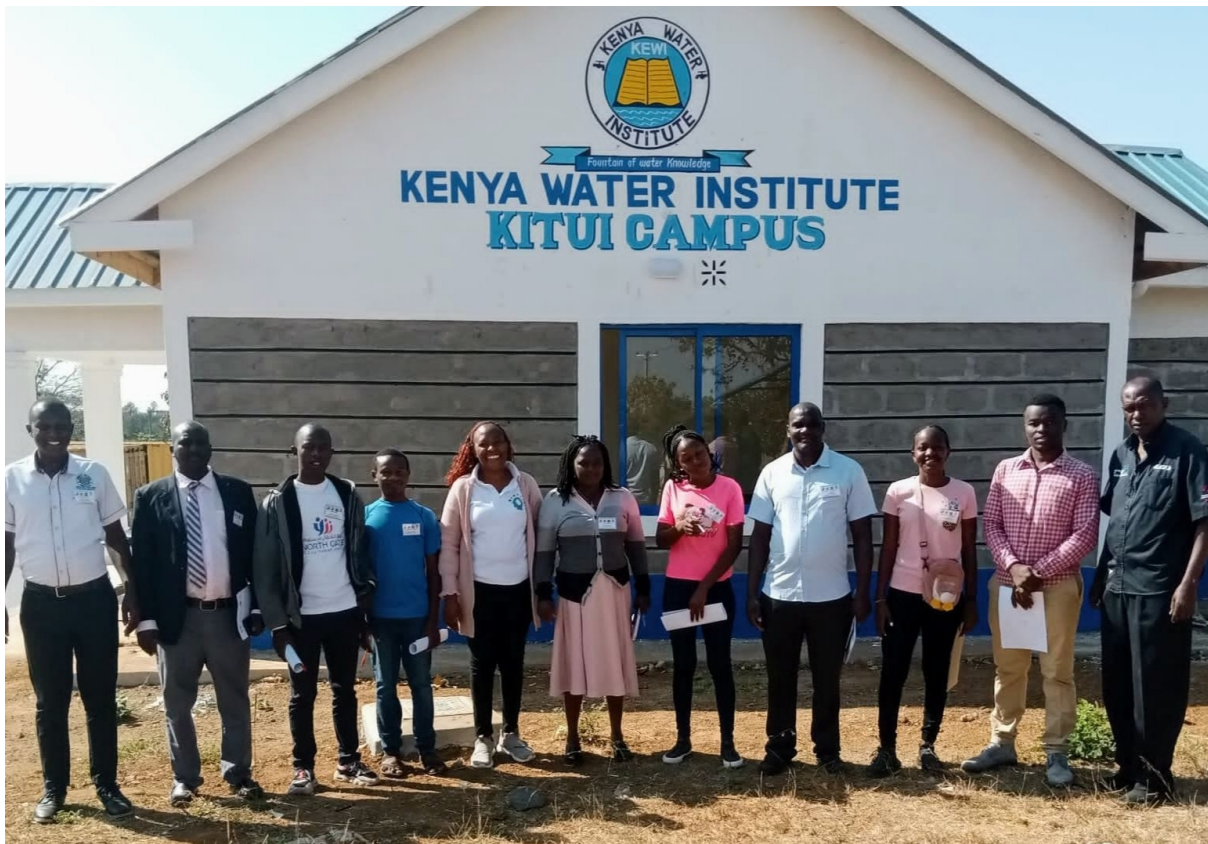
enhancing KEWI's capabilities.

The one year partnership is based on the fact that KEWI and Gatsby Africa will have an extended 2 year partnership which is aimed at supporting KEWI to establish national Non - Revenue Water Management Excellence Center. This will be the first initiative of its kind in the nation, with the goal of ensuring that KEWI is able to provide leadership in terms of innovation and skills. Five KEWI employees will receive training abroad to strengthen partnerships, ensuring that when they return, they will have the most recent industry knowledge.

The Centre, to be located at the KEWI Main Campus in Nairobi, will specialize in the provision of high-quality NRW training as well as research in the Water Sector.

As part of this, Gatsby Africa will assist KEWI to up skill the key personnel involved in NRW management at KEWI, strengthen the diagnostic and analytical capacity of KEWI's laboratories and workshops as well enhancing the research unit undertake high quality ongoing research in water services delivery.

# KEWI and AFDB's Approach to Promote Safe Pit Toilets Adoption



*KEWI research team in Kitui in Campus.*

BY VIRGINIA NANETIA

Kenya has total sanitation coverage at 93% and at 16% on sewerage coverage despite the number of people served increasing by 5.7%; which translates to 90% of the sanitation coverage being onsite sanitation according to the recent WASREB impact report.

Only 30% of the Kenyan population has access to improved sanitation where majorities are in the urban areas. This therefore underscores the dire need for awareness, capacity building,

infrastructure development and dissemination of sustainable sanitation innovations.

Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) in partnership with African Development Bank (AFDB) is against this background and through its Research and Consultancy Unit has gone out of its way to initiate an ambitious partnership that seeks to bridge this gap and is currently implementing a project of improving pit latrines by construction of safe pan (SATO) and Green Toilet System (GTS) toilets in selected pilot schools

respectively.

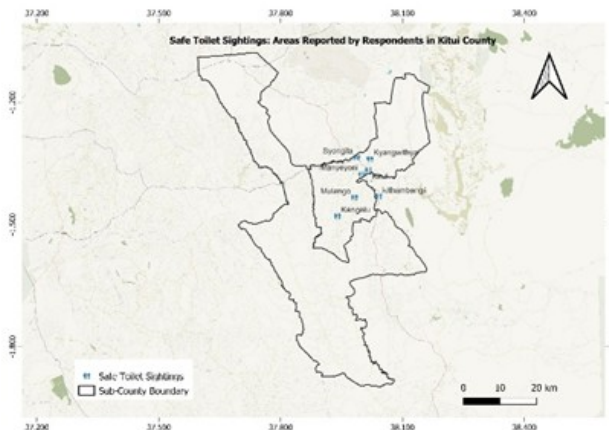
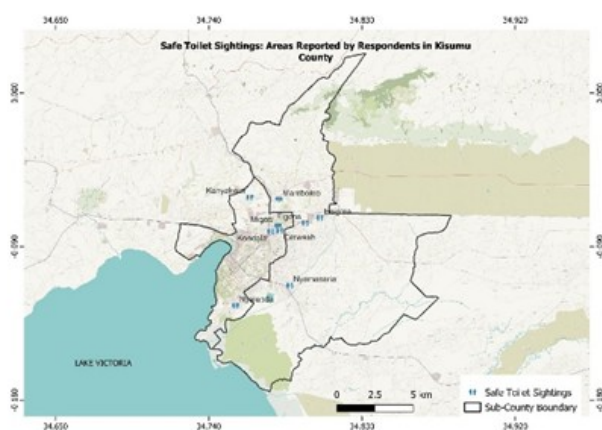
Drawing from the four elements of diffusion of innovation which are innovation,

communication channels, time, and social systems; the choice of school was arrived at as a channel of communication and a social system that has the greatest impact and reaches household level in the community. It's an effective way to overcome socio-cultural innovation and diffusion barriers.

The research study in Kitui and Kisumu underscores the complexity of factors influencing the adoption of SATO.

To promote the widespread use of improved sanitation technologies, it was essential to

# KEWI and AFDB's Approach to Promote Safe Pit Toilets Adoption



*Safe Toilet sightings: Areas reported by respondents in Kisumu and Kitui Counties.*

consider a multifaceted approach that includes raising awareness, addressing affordability challenges, engaging communities, respecting cultural norms, and fostering government support.

By understanding and addressing these factors, Kitui and Kisumu, which form the initial pilot regions for implementation of the program and along with other regions facing similar challenges, KEWI can make significant strides towards achieving improved sanitation and a healthier future for their residents.

KEWI research team and stu-

dents have conducted research study doubling up as awareness and public participation exercise in the households around the school's locality of Kisumu and Kitui counties to

members, local leaders, and sanitation experts.

This is with an aim to gather insights into the factors influencing the adoption of Safe Pit Toilets in these regions.



*KEWI research team in Kisumu Campus.*

ensure community on boarding.

The research study in Kitui and Kisumu has involved a combination of surveys, interviews, and focus group discussions with community

The exercise which involved data collection using the Open Data Kit (ODK) tool to administer the questionnaire is as shown by the output map.

The institute as part of developing competent human resource involves students in the project implementation.

The students apart from diversifying the multidisciplinary teams gain practical and on-field skills as they carry out the projects.

# CEO Addresses the Importance of Implementing New Policies

BY PIUS KIMANI

In what he has stated as deliberate step to enhance the status of Kenya Water Institute (KEWI), improve accountability and streamline various sections of the management, Chief Executive Officer Dr. Leiro Letangule has hinted that his office with that of Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula, Chairperson, KEWI Governing Council is drafting and finalizing various policies that are meant to guide the operations of KEWI.

Talking at a time when the institute has embarked on an aggressive marketing campaign and restructuring process to enhance the efficiency and transparency of its activities, Dr. Letangule has said KEWI leadership is focusing on ensuring that the institute focuses on competence so that it can not only raise its standards in terms of performance and resource mobilization but also ensure that it offers the best services to its strategic clientele through employment of the best management practices.

Dr. Letangule has said that sound management tools that will propel the institute to higher levels will be put into use since this will improve the institutes credibility and acceptance as force to reckon when it comes to delivering on its core mandate of

Training, Research and Consultancy.

Outlining a number of policies, Dr. Letangule has said that the council has been working on Examination Policy which he stated is at the final stages. Once finalized and adopted, the policy is set to address critical is-



KEWI CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule.

suues that surround the examination process for KEWI trainees.

As an institution qualified by the Kenya National Qualifications Authority (KNQA) to train, examine and certify trainees, KEWI is obliged to churn out competent graduates that are acceptable and qualified in the job market. This can only be possible by streamlining on the examinations process, something that the newly appointed Senior Principal Registrar Mr. Michael Ang'anyo agrees in to-

lity. KEWI is also finalizing on Students Welfare Policy that seeks to ensure that the students' affairs are dealt with successfully and resourcefully. The policy also will seek to enhance conformity with the institutes standards, procedures and regulations.

The Council is also finalizing on Research and Consultancy Policy. This policy which is expected to reinvigorate the research and consultancy unit of KEWI comes at a time when the progress towards rebranding the institute to Kenya Water Training and Research Institute is the institute to Kenya Water Training and Research Institute is gathering speed through the review of KEWI Act No 11 of 2011.

This critical policy is set to build on and increase research outputs as outlined in KEWI Strategic Plan 2021-2016 that seek to enhance consultancy services by creating a strategic business unit, modernizing research laboratory, establishing innovation and incubation centers among other critical areas of essence to this policy.

Dr. Letangule also noted that a Finance Policy that will guide the operations and management of the institutes finance was a work in progress

# CEO Addresses the Importance of Implementing New Policies

and that it would address how the finance arm of the instates runs its business. He further said that the council in close collaboration and guidance from the human resource department was finalizing on Human Resource Management Policy.

This, he said, is set to define the various expectations, qualifications and also all matters around the management of the institutes' human resource capital. Dr Letangule insisted that the draft policies will soon be subjected to validation exercises for purposes of seeking comments from members of staff before they are finally adopted.

Dr. Letangule also informed the staff that Debt Management Policy for the institute was also being worked on. This policy comes at a time when KEWI is working round the corner to seek collaborations with like-minded organizations that

require a leveled playing field to be able to confidently come on board and support the strategic direction the institution is taking.

Once adopted, the policy will help promote fiscal transparency, strengthen good governance and enhance investors and partnership confidence.

Alongside these policies is Intellectual Property Policy and Competency Framework. The policy once adopted will seek to provide legal firmness, encourage technical research and industrial development among other hordes of benefits.

Policy and Competency Framework. The policy once adopted will seek to provide legal firmness, encourage technical research and industrial development among other hordes of benefits.

While calling out for con-

certed efforts to ensure that the mentioned policies and others that will be coming along are strictly adhered to, Dr. Letangule noted that business will not be as usual and that the institute will not stop at nothing short of delivering to the public as committed and dedicated public servants.

Dr. Letangule tasked the office of the Deputy Director, Research, Consultancy and Technical Services spearheaded by Mr. Nelson Kwamini to ensure that once the policies are adopted, they are adhered to the letter.

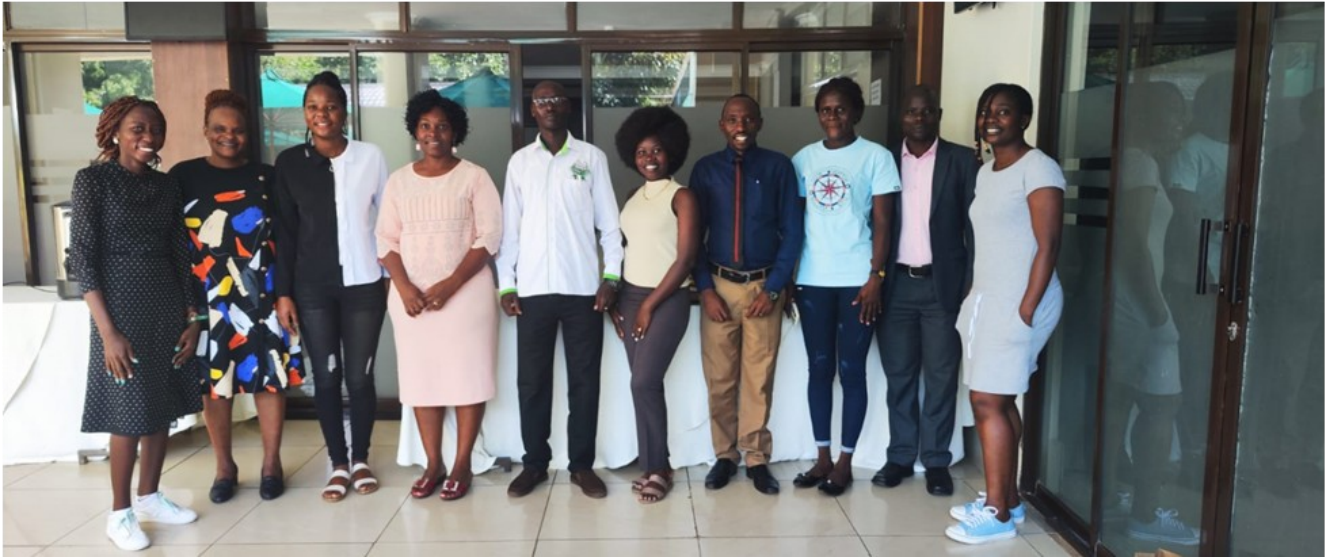
He tasked him with the duty of gathering all within his capabilities and with the support of the management and the council to help regain the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) certification by the end of this year as it will help a great deal in galvanizing the resolute direction the institute is taking.

Dr. Letangule also guided that the institute will be moving into full implementation of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. KEWI is in the process of implementing software system that will help automate and manage core business processes of the institute for optimal performance.



*KEWI staff during a staff meeting with the CEO Dr. Letangule.*

# WUSC- EUMC Students Scholarship Conference held in Kisumu



*KEWI Kisumu Campus Alumni Dorothy Midimo (left), Abdi Munira (third left ), Trainers and students in a group photo.*

BY JOHN WAWERU

**D**orothy Midimo and Abdi Munira are two ambitious ladies who have the world before them. The two, both alumni of Kenya Water Institute Kisumu Campus were among participants who attended and shared their resilient and transformative journey during the World University Service of Canada - Education Changes the World (WUSC-EUMC) Conference held at the Grand Royal Swiss Hotel in Kisumu.

The conference which brought together WUSC - EUMC staff, Heads of Departments from beneficiary TVET colleges, the 2 KEWI Kisumu alumni and students from various colleges under the scholarship with an objectives of developing

strategies set at improving students' performance and post training transition plans and also to reflect on students' progress and develop sustainable solutions.

Dorothy, a successful climate change ambassador voicing matters climate change and environmental conservation in the country pursued Diploma in Water Resource Management and Technology. She is keen on championing the place of women in leading the environmental conservation campaign in whatever capacity. Dorothy has also attended the past Conference of the Parties (COP) 27 conference in Egypt and is looking forward to attend COP 28 scheduled to take

place in Dubai from 30<sup>th</sup> November to 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

The young dedicated, inspiring and self-driven Water Resources and Environmental ambassador is currently a Programs Manager at the Lake Basin Region Climate Action Delivery unit.

Abdi Munira who pursued Diploma in Water Engineering Technology is a beneficiary of KEWI - Arava Israel internship program. Munira is looking forward to fly to Denmark where she has secured a lucrative position in her field of expertise as a water engineering technician.

The two alumni were all smiles and grateful to KEWI for the milestones they have achieved despite their hurdles as self-sponsored students. They offered great inspiration and

# WUSC- EUMC Students Scholarship Conference held in Kisumu

mentorship to students from refugee camps and sparked rays of hope that a girl child can rise above the norms and become a successful person in her career.

WUSC - EUMC is a Canadian non-profit organization dedicated to providing education, employment and empowerment opportunities for youth around the world.

It has been sponsoring girl child education from marginalized Arid and Semi

Arid Lands (ASAL) groups from Kakuma and Daadab to pursue their technical and vocational education through a competitive selection process.

The conference offered a rich opportunity for the stakeholders to engage and share experiences with students from the Refugee Camps pursuing TVET courses.

The project successfully created Awareness and Sensitization, Capacity Building

and Mentorship on importance of girl child being empowered and embracing the Technical Vocational Education Training systems (TVET) approach to learning.

## Quote of the Week

“Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree long time ago.”

**-Warren Buffett.**

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# Round Up of the Week's Events



*New students during admission process for the September 2023 intake.*



*A group photo of KEWI student leaders during a Young Leadership Development Program at Kenya School of Government, Embu.*

# Round Up of the Week's Events



*KEWI Members of the Governing Council and the Management team in Kisumu and Chiakariga Campuses.*



KEWI Governing Council  
Chairperson Hon. Musili,  
KEWI CEO Dr. Letangule with CECM  
Environment, Water, Climate Change &  
Natural Resources, and Regional Commissioner, Kisumu County respectively.

**Long - Term Programmes**

Diploma in Water Engineering Technology (DWET) Diploma in Wastewater  
 Diploma in Water, Sanitation Engineering Technology (DWSET)  
 Diploma in Water Resources Management Technology (DWRMT)  
 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  
 Entrepreneurship and Financial Management for Water Managers  
 Operation and Maintenance of Water Supply Networks  
 Metering and Installation of Water Supply Networks  
 Leak Detection & Repair techniques  
 Drilling Operations and Management (DOM)  
 Operation & Maintenance of Pumping Stations  
 Pump Selection, Installation and Maintenance  
 Plumbing, Pipe Fitting and Solar Water Heating  
 Instrumentation for Water and Wastewater Systems  
 Water Governance, Management and Technology  
 Application of GIS for Water Utilities Mapping  
 Drilling Operations and Management  
 Water Quality Sampling and Testing  
 Microbiological Water Quality Assessment  
 Integrated Water Resources Management  
 Non-Revenue water  
 Water Management  
 Customer Care

## 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  
Professionalism  
Customer Focus  
Innovativeness  
Inclusivity  
Patriotism  
Integrity

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## OTHER SERVICES OFFERED

Water Quality Laboratory Services  
Drilling and Test Pumping Services  
Ground water Assessment Services  
Conferencing Services  
Troubleshooting of pumps boreholes and distribution systems  
Repair of pumps boreholes and distribution systems

**Your feedback is crucial for our improvement**



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