Volume 2 Issue 15

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

KENYA WATER INSTITUTE
KEWI
Fountain Of Water Knowledge

WEEKLY Newsletter

April 22 -26 2024

Training of Trainers Program Pioneers Excellence in Water Sector Education

A section of trainers from all the KEWI Campuses during the Training of Trainers (TOT) workshop held in Nairobi Campus.

BY FAIZAH JEPKORIR

The Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) just concluded its highly successful Training of Trainers (TOT) program at its Nairobi Main Campus, marking a significant leap forward in the realm of water sector education. Facilitated by esteemed instructors from the Kenya School of Government (KSG), this intensive one-week program was meticulously designed to equip KEWI's trainers with essential skills and competencies needed to mentor the next generation of water professionals.

At the heart of KEWI's mission lies a steadfast commitment to nurturing budding talent and addressing the evolving demands of the water sector. KEWI CEO, Dr. Leiro Letangule EBS, emphasized the pivotal role of trainers in shaping the industry's future during his opening address.

"With a diverse suite of

HIGHLIGHTS

2 Training of Trainers Program pioneers Excellence in Water Sector Education

3 Governing Council visit to Kisumu Campus Strengthens Regional Partnership

5 Rainwater Harvesting; Taking the positives

6 KEWI partners with WWF-Kenya to conserve Nyang'ori-Kibos River

Training of Trainers Program Pioneers Excellence in Water Sector Education

programs catering to learners across all levels, KEWI stands as a beacon of excellence in advocating for non-polluted water practices and delivering top-tier education to its students," reiterated Dr. Letangule.

"The success of our water sector hinges on the dedication and expertise of our trainers, through initiatives like the TOT program, we aim to arm them with the necessary tools to drive positive change within our communities. "He added.

Under the guidance of Mr. Eric Wamiti, the Deputy Director Academic Affairs, the importance of the training in meeting the institution's mandate was articulated. The trainers were addressed, emphasizing the crucial role they play in shaping the educational landscape of the water sector.

Further into the training, the program divided participants into two groups based on their job roles: TOT Course for Senior Managers and Middle Level Managers. Both groups underwent similar trainings facilitated by the same instructors, delving into topics such as coaching, mentoring, change management, adult training principles, staff discipline, systematic training approach, transfer of learning and ethical considerations in training.

Participants engaged in immersive learning sessions, leveraging multimedia tools and effective evaluation techniques to enhance their approach, among others. The principles of andragogy were explored, empowering trainers to adopt a learner-centric approach in their educational practices.

A moment during the training session.

The program's culmination featured a thorough examination of Kirkpatrick's Four Level Framework, highlighting the importance of evaluation and strategic planning in training endeavors. Through this framework, KEWI reaffirms its commitment to evaluating the efficacy of its training programs and adapting them to meet the dynamic needs of the water sector.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Kimeli M. Chirchir, the Deputy Director Corporate Services, on behalf of the Director, emphasized the importance of incorporating case studies into training sessions. He noted with concern the necessity of aligning educational practices with the Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) framework in KEWI.

"The institution pledges its support for all academic ventures to ensure compliance with the CBET curriculum," said Dr. Chirchir.

He further expressed profound gratitude to the trainers for their unwavering dedication throughout the program and urged participants to translate their newfound knowledge into actionable strategies that can positively impact the water sector.

As KEWI remains steadfast in its commitment to excellence in education and training, initiatives like the TOT program serve as catalysts for propelling the water sector forward and shaping a brighter future for Kenya's water resources.

Governing Council visit to Kisumu Campus Strengthens Regional Partnership

Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula, in company of Dr. Leiro Letangule and members of the Governing Council addressing members of staff at Kisumu Campus.

BY JEFFERSON SUMANCHA

Kenya Water Institute (KEWI) Governing Council Chairperson Hon. Patrick Musili Mbangula and CEO Dr. Leiro Letangule, EBS, have unilaterally emphasized the need for increased productivity and strategic efforts to achieve outstanding results across the Campuses. While leading the council for a working tour across the campuses, the two rallied the staff to focus on creating a collaborative workplace and integrating the benefits of recent changes in management practices.

The leadership highlighted the campuses notable progress in improving service delivery, increasing visibility, expanding the workforce, and enhancing stakeholder engagement.

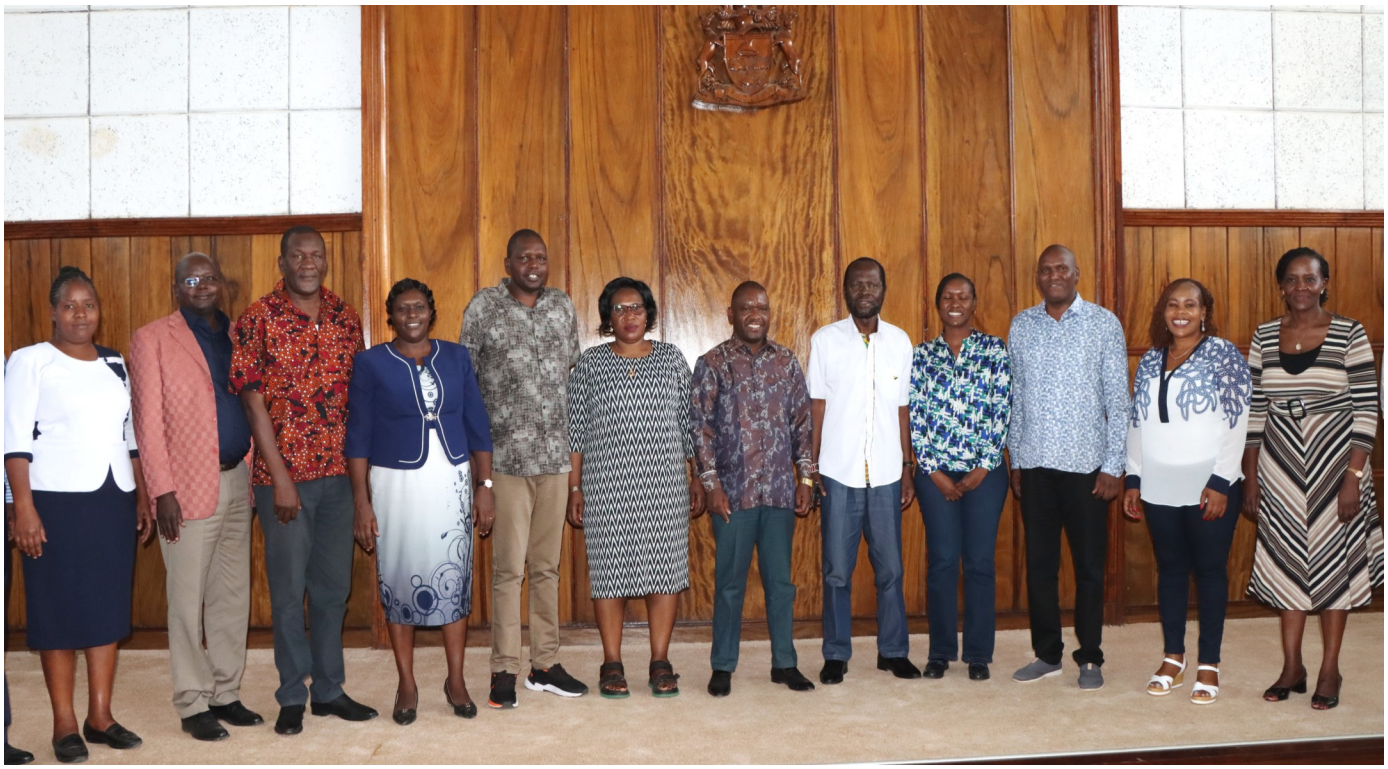
Addressing the staff in Kisumu Campus, Hon. Mbangula said that the council was working closely and harmoniously with the CEO to ensure that there is a conducive environment for optimum service delivery within the campuses. He said that they were facilitating massive infrastructural developments across campuses including completing stalled projects to help improve the quality of the services offered.

"We are carrying out reforms that seek to improve the overall status of our campuses. We are improving on existing policies and working on new ones that will inform how we do our business," he said.

Dr. Letangule noted that the institute was keen on improving the overall suitability of her staff to ensure that they remained ahead of the curve in terms of having the prerequisite knowledge for service delivery.

He said that the management with the help of the council was keen on human resource development so as to entrench a culture of

Governing Council visit to Kisumu Campus Strengthens Regional Partnership



Kisumu County Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o (in white shirt) with members of KEWI Governing Council when they paid him a courtesy call.

performance among employees.

The CEO pointed out that the ongoing changes at KEWI were not only good for the institution alone but were also chances that would help open up more opportunities for the staff.

"As the institution undergoes transformations, it is also a privilege for us as staff members, since there are greater opportunities linked to our respective careers," he noted, emphasizing a commitment to both organizational and personal growth.

The visit at the lake city campus also included a meeting with Kisumu County Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o, where the importance of a strong partnership between the county government and KEWI was discussed. Recognizing the strategic value of having a top-tier water training institution in the Lake Region, Governor Nyong'o supported KEWI's mission and agreed to help whenever the need to do so arises.

Overall, KEWI's top management's visit to the Campuses is a proactive step towards meeting its educational goals and expanding its leadership in water resource management education in Kenya. Through enhanced partnerships, and a focus on transformative education, KEWI is paving the way for improved operations and wider educational impact. in the future.

RESEARCH

Rainwater: Harvesting and Taking the Positives

Run-off water harvested and stored in a water pan.

BY DENNIS LEMALI

The most recent Kenya Meteorological Department weather review and forecast has reinforced awareness of heavy rainfalls experienced in the country in recent weeks as well as the amount of expected rainfall in the next week. A quick glance at the weekly forecast synoptic charts unsurprisingly indicates a significant amount of rainfall is to be expected in the coming week. The report indicates that most parts of the country expect between 10-20mm of rainfall while some parts in the central and Nairobi regions to expect as high as 120mm of rainfall in the coming week.

While this may not come as a shock, - in reference to previous warnings and signs – the questions we ought to be asking ourselves are; What can we learn from this? What are some of the positives we can take?

In such situations, the negative outcomes mostly outweigh the positive ones but if we let ourselves dwell and drown in the negatives, we may as well never learn from them nor solve some problems.

Rainwater harvesting is sometimes if not often an overlooked area that requires urgent and increased sensitization and awareness. It harnesses this useful resource in applicable and easy techniques and with that come endless advantages that run from cost effectiveness to agricultural and irrigation benefits to increased water and environment conservation efforts. There is a need to support the Ministry of Water, Irrigation and Sanitation together with the Cabinet Secretary, Zachary Njeru, EGH in prioritizing rainwater harvesting as a crucial means of solving water scarcity in our country.

The National Water Harvesting and Storage Authority was established under section 30 of the Water Act to undertake development of national public water works for water resource storage and flood control. The authority launched its Strategic Plan 2021 -2026 which underscores the importance of collection and management of rainwater. According to the authority, over two thirds of the country receives less than 500mm of rainfall per year and 79% has less than 700mm annually. Only 11% of the country receives more than 1000 mm per year. Water harvesting is therefore inevitable to bring water closer to the people and therefore contribute to the right to water and provisions of article 43 of the constitution.

According to the 2019 Kenya Population Census, only 3.9% of the total Kenyan households use rainwater as a source of drinking water. This implies that most of the households let water freely flow off in form of rain or storm water. The practice includes, impounding of surface runoff, roof harvesting, stored in tanks, Pans, on farm

RESEARCH

Rainwater: Harvesting and Taking the Positives

stored in tanks, Pans, on farm retention structures, sub-surface dams, underground in aquifers and retention of the water in the soil as moisture. The suitability of each method depends on the location and intended use.

The amount of water that could be captured through rainwater harvesting systems is surprisingly high: For example, a flat terrace of area 100 m2 in a region with an average annual rainfall of 600 mm could accumulate 60,000 liters a year.

According to the UN, about 1/3 of the annual rainfall is needed to sustain the wider environment, forests, grasslands and base-level river flows.

In this case, harvesting only 60% of the rainfall would still yield 36,000 liters. This is about twice the annual drinking water requirement of a 5- member family if each person consumes 10 liters per day. Even in regions with only 200 mm of average annual rainfall, about 12,000 liters of rainwater could be harvested each year.

The institute recently hosted a two-week long conference on rainwater harvesting. It attracted high profile local and international guests, scholars, experts, stakeholders among other interested parties. The much-needed conference was highly productive and powerfully impacted a rejuvenated approach towards rainwater harvesting techniques and highlighted the need to quickly embrace it, whilst showcasing the governments' efforts towards the course.

Lessons learnt from such phenomenon may be our ticket out to solving some of the perennial water scarcity problems in the country. Retention of rainwater promotes sustainable alternative water resource and will not only help in agricultural and drought mitigation strategies, reducing run-off and flooding, but also in improving water quality and mitigating erosion and soil degradation among many others. As we continue receiving distressing news of the havoc rains have continued to cause in different parts of our country, it is also important to think positively, use what we get or have and do what we can.

Quote of the Week

"Inspiration tells you what to achieve; a trainer tells you how."

CA Vikram Verma

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TRAINING

KEWI partners with WWF-Kenya to conserve Nyang'ori-Kibos River

BY JEFFERSON SUMANCHA

In a remarkable demonstration of commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility, KEWI Kisumu Campus has joined hands with the World Wide Fund (WWF) Kenya, and other water sector partners to partake in the Journey of Water for Nyang'ori -Kibos River. Scheduled for mid-June 2024, this initiative showcases KEWI's proactive approach in collaborative water management and conservation efforts aimed at sustainable outcomes for all communities involved.

The journey is expansive, cutting across 3 counties; Kisumu, Vihiga, and Nandi, each playing a critical role in the watershed of the Nyang'ori / Kibos River. This geographic span highlights the broad impact and collaborative nature of the initiative, involving multiple local governments and communities in the efforts to protect and manage the water resources effectively.

The Journey of Water initiative focuses on the holistic protection of water from the catchment to the tap, ensuring every phase of the water cycle is managed sustainably.

By collaborating with WWF Kenya, KEWI will tap into a reservoir of shared expertise and resources to protect and enhance the river's ecosystem. This cooperation is crucial, supporting biodiversity and stabilizing local climates which benefit the agricultural and community activities dependent on these water resources.

Through the initiative, KEWI will play a vital role in advocacy and raising awareness about the importance of water conservation and sustainable management. The partnership will influence behavior and policy changes that prioritize environmental conservation, creating an enabling environment for implementing long-term water management solutions.

Knowledge sharing and capacity building are key objectives of this collaborative effort. KEWI will bring to the table its expertise in water education and training, empowering local stakeholders with the necessary skills to manage water resources efficiently. The training sessions will cover modern, sustainable water practices and

KEWI partners with WWF-Kenya to conserve Nyang'ori-Kibos River

conservation and access.

The Journey of Water will also addresses broader social and environmental challenges, integrating climate adaptation strategies and promoting gender inclusivity to ensure that water management efforts are equitable.

KEWI will support these initiatives, ensuring that the efforts to improve resilience to environmental impacts are inclusive, giving community members of all genders equitable access to water resources.

Kisumu Campus active participation in the Journey of Water for Nyang'ori / Kibos River exemplifies how structured partnerships and community-focused initiatives can enhance water stewardship.

By working alongside WWF Kenya and other key players, KEWI will not only contribute to the sustainable management of local water resources but will also set a benchmark for responsible water management across the region.

This initiative is a testament to the power of collaboration in fostering environmental sustainability and strengthening community resilience, proving that together, much more can be achieved in the realm of water conservation.

"Conservation of a river is not just about protecting water; it's about safeguarding life's flow and ensuring a legacy of vitality for generations to come."

Round up of The Week's Events

Moments during the Training of Trainers Worshop that as held in KEWI Nairobi Campus.

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 (DWRTM)
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 (CWLT)
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

T o 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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